

MEETING

CABINET

DATE AND TIME

TUESDAY 17TH JULY, 2012

AT 7.00 PM

VENUE

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, NW4 4BG

TO: MEMBERS OF CABINET (Quorum 5)

Chairman: Councillor Richard Cornelius, Leader of the Council

Councillors

Daniel Thomas
Dean Cohen
Tom Davey

Andrew Harper
Helena Hart
David Longstaff

Sachin Rajput
Robert Rams
Joanna Tambourides

You are requested to attend the above meeting for which an agenda is attached.

Aysen Giritli – Head of Governance

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CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE

ORDER OF BUSINESS

| Item No | Title of Report | Pages |
|---------|---|-----------|
| 1. | Minutes | |
| 2. | Absence of Members | |
| 3. | Declaration of Members Personal and Prejudicial Interests | |
| 4. | Public Question Time | |
| | Report of the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance | |
| 5. | Finance and Business Planning Process 2013/14 to 2015/16 | 1 - 20 |
| | Report of the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Families, Cabinet Member for Adults, Cabinet Member for Safety and Resident Engagement and the Cabinet Member for Public Health | |
| 6. | Safeguarding in Barnet | 21 - 46 |
| | Report of the Cabinet Member for Safety and Resident Engagement | |
| 7. | Creation of a borough wide Designated Public Place Order | 47 - 66 |
| | Reports of the Cabinet Member for Planning | |
| 8. | The Spires Shopping Centre, Market Site and Territorial Army Centre, Chipping Barnet- Draft Planning Framework for adoption | 67 - 114 |
| 9. | Barnet's Local Plan - Core Strategy and Development Management Policies - Adoption | 115 - 462 |
| | Report of the Cabinet Member for Environment | |
| 10. | Events in Parks Policy | 463 - 490 |
| | Report of the Cabinet Member for Adults | |
| 11. | Re-shaping Day opportunities for Older People in Barnet: Results on Consultation and Recommendations for a Future Service | 491 - 568 |

| | | |
|-----|---|-----------|
| | Report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance | |
| 12. | Consultation on options for Council Tax Localisation | 569 - 592 |
| 13. | Any Items That The Chairman Decides Are Urgent | |

FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

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|----------------|---|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 th July 2012 |
| Subject | Finance and Business Planning Process 2013/14 to 2015/16 |
| Report of | Leader of the Council Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance |
| Summary | This report sets out the strategic context for the finance and business planning process for 2013/14 to 2015/16, updates on the Council's medium term financial strategy, and sets out the timetable that the process will follow between now and March 2013. |

| | |
|---|--|
| Officer Contributors | Andrew Travers, Deputy Chief Executive Julie Taylor, Assistant Chief Executive John Hooton, Assistant Director, Strategic Finance Stephen Evans, Assistant Director Strategy Hayley Woolard, Head of Strategic Finance |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards affected | All |
| Enclosures | Appendix 1 – Medium Term Financial Strategy Update |
| For decision by | Cabinet |
| Function of | Executive |
| Reason for urgency/ exemption from call-in | N/A |

Contact for further information – John Hooton, Assistant Director, Strategic Finance, 020 8359 2460

1 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To agree the strategic context for the business planning process for 2013/14 onwards as set out in section 9.2 and 9.3;**
- 1.2 To note the updated budget gap for the next 3 years as set out in paragraph 9.4.4 and Appendix 1;**
- 1.3 To agree the allocation of savings targets as set out in paragraph 9.4.8 to enable departments to work up proposals for review in the autumn;**
- 1.4 To agree the timetable for business planning as set out in paragraph 9.7; and**

2 RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet on 20th February 2012 approved the Budget, Council Tax and Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2012/13 to 2014/15. This report looks at the strategic context within which the business planning process will be delivered, which will culminate in the Budget, Council Tax and Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2013/14 to 2015/16.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The business planning process is designed to enable Members to set the strategic direction of the Council, and for that direction to be reflected in the Corporate Plan, the budget, and business unit and individual staff plans. The process is designed to dovetail with the Corporate Plan, ensuring resources are most effectively focused on the priorities set out in the plan. The nature of the process is particularly designed to support the priority of *Better Services with less Money*.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Severe resource constraint represents the most significant risk to the Council fulfilling its strategic objectives. The Council set a three year Medium Term Financial Strategy in March 2012, which means that a plan is in place to deliver the organisation's objectives in the context of reduced government funding.
- 4.2 The Council's improved risk management process is reported quarterly to Cabinet Resources Committee, along with other performance management information, and will be reflected as appropriate in financial and business planning.
- 4.3 There is also a significant risk that the government has to reconsider the current spending review (2011-15) and make further cuts to local government support. This pessimistic assumption is now factored into our financial planning.

- 4.4 The challenges set out in this report will require fundamental change in the way Council services are delivered which in turn will impact on the human resources of the organisation and related policies and practices.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 Equality and diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in decision-making in the council (including, specifically, the public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010). This requires members to satisfy themselves that equality considerations are integrated into day to day business and that all proposals emerging from the finance and business planning process have properly taken into consideration including what impact, if any, there is on any protected group and what mitigating factors can be put in train.
- 5.2 The projected increase in the borough's population and changes in the demographic profile will be key factors that need to be considered when determining both the corporate strategy and service responses. Both of these need to also reflect the aspirations and contributions of current residents.
- 5.3 Similarly, all human resources implications will need to be managed in accordance with the Council's Managing Organisational Change policy that supports the Council's Human Resources Strategy and meets statutory equalities duties and current employment legislation.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 This report is concerned with the Council's medium-term financial strategy and budget process. The 2012/13 planning process was again characterised by the most significant cuts to grant funding for local authorities in a generation. Since that point, three year budgets have been set, meaning that the Council has gone a long way to overcoming the significant challenge that the cuts to funding present. However, a period of continuing austerity will continue through to at least 2016/17, with likely additional cuts to government funding over the period from 2014 to 2017. There is significant uncertainty (and opportunities) over the outcome of the government's review into local government funding that will be implemented for 2013/14, so the forthcoming planning process needs to reflect this position.
- 6.2 The content of this report deals with some of the significant demographic and related changes that impact on the borough. While the Council is required to set an annual budget, and it is standard practice to set a 3 year medium term financial strategy, a longer term view (10 years) will need to be considered to fully understand the strategic planning challenges facing the Council.
- 6.3 There has been significant global economic uncertainty over recent months. The outlook for UK growth over the longer-term remains very weak and future cuts to public spending are now likely. In proportional terms, a

significant element of these cuts are likely to be focused on local government, with a future spending review being 50% more severe than the current round of cuts. Given this context, the council's financial strategy has to remain cautious.

- 6.4 As a result of reforms to local government finance, growth in Council Tax will be retained by Councils as will an element of business rate growth. This means that growth is now very important to the financial strategy. Future investment will need to be targeted in such a way that facilitates growth across the borough.
- 6.5 The financial strategy is underpinned by a Council Tax increase of 2.5% per annum throughout the period from 2013 to 2016.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 The Government's NHS reforms, as contained in the Health and Social Care Act 2012, are addressed in section 9.2.16 below.
- 7.2 All proposals emerging from the business planning process will need to be considered in terms of the Council's legal powers and obligations (including, specifically, the public sector equality duty under the Equality Act 2010) and, where appropriate, mechanisms put into place to ensure compliance with legal obligations and duties and to mitigate any other legal risks as far as possible.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1 Constitution, Part 3, Responsibility for Functions – Section 3, Responsibilities of the Executive.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 Executive Summary

9.1.1 For the 2012/13 business planning, Cabinet set the strategic objectives that form the basis of the 2012/13 Corporate Plan. These objectives drive the allocation of resources and are refined through public consultation.

9.1.2 Despite large cuts to local government funding and continuing economic uncertainty, Barnet Council is in a strong position. The Council has a robust three year plan to meet savings requirements and a track record of delivery of savings already over the current spending review period. Alongside this, the Council's reserves position and financial resilience remains strong.

9.1.3 The Corporate Plan is now more focused and concise, setting objectives against the most important priorities for the organisation. This provides a strong basis for performance management throughout the year.

9.1.4 The next planning cycle throws up some new challenges, the main ones being as follows:

- Given the continued gloomy outlook for the UK economy, there is a likelihood that there will be further spending cuts implemented by the government from 2014/15 onwards, over and above the cuts already indicated in the autumn statement in 2011. The planning cycle needs to identify options to address these likely cuts in the Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- Growth is now of huge importance to the Council's financial strategy. Significant changes are taking place to the way local government is financed, most significantly the retention of business rates, the ability to retain growth in the Council tax base, and the localisation of Council Tax benefit from April 2013; and
- The Council has already successfully established the Local Authority Trading Company, the Parking contract and will enter into more contractual arrangements in 2012/13, most significantly the Development and Regulatory Services contract and the Support and Customer Services contract. The implementation of these projects is fundamental to the delivery of the financial strategy. This direction of travel necessitates the move to a new organisational form which establishes firm commissioning and contract management arrangements. The planning process needs to ensure that this new form is implemented by April 2013.

9.1.5 The Medium Term Financial Strategy has been updated in this document. The budget gap is £49m over the three years 2013/14 to 2015/16, and pressures of £4.5m. Some savings (£29.8m) have already been identified to cover 2013/14 and 2014/15. There is an additional budget gap for 2014/15 of £6.1m, and the budget gap for 2015/16 is projected to be £17.9m. To provide options for Cabinet to consider, savings targets are set out in paragraph 9.4.8.

9.1.6 The timetable will run in three stages:

- 1 – Identification of strategic objectives and resource gaps;
- 2 – Consultation and development/review of draft business plans; and
- 3 – Formal approval of budget and corporate plan.

9.1.7 The timetable for the process is set out in paragraph 9.6.1.

9.2 Strategy

Strategic Context

- 9.2.1 The economic climate is extremely challenging. Central government funding for local authorities is reducing by £81bn over four years and councils across the country face the challenge of providing better services with less money. It is confirmed that Barnet will have 26% less income from central government over four years from 2011 to 2015. At the same time, population growth and rising expectations makes it imperative that the council is able to adapt and change to ensure better services for our residents.
- 9.2.2 Given the current economic climate, it is increasingly likely that the government will need to make further cuts to local government funding from 2014/15 onwards, and it is predicted that these cuts will be up to 1.5 times as great as the current spending review cuts.
- 9.2.3 In spite of current funding challenges, the residents of Barnet continue to receive high quality services: 91% of schools in Barnet are rated as 'good' or 'excellent' by Ofsted and Adults and Children's services are recognised as 'excellent' by external inspectors. The borough remains an attractive and successful place to live, with household incomes totalling almost £6bn last year and 86% of residents satisfied with their local area.
- 9.2.4 The council's future regeneration programme will see £6bn of private sector investment over the next 25 years to ensure that the borough remains an attractive place to live and do business.
- 9.2.5 Growth in Barnet is now of huge importance to the finances of the Council. Changes in the local government finance system mean that Councils will see greater local control over Council Tax and Business Rate receipts. This means that the financial strategy now needs to be underpinned by a growth in the tax base and economic growth to ensure that Council Tax remains low and the quality of public services can be preserved.
- 9.2.6 The council's approach to business planning has been to focus on mitigating the impact of funding reductions on front line services as far as possible through back office efficiencies and developing alternative ways to deliver services. In the business planning report approved in March 2013, £43m of savings identified were identified, with 77% being efficiencies, 17% from service reductions and 6% were related to increases in income.

9.2.7 At the same time as prioritising resources and cutting back on waste and inefficiency, the council is investing in order to meet the challenges of the future. In Children's Services we are investing over £1m a year in Early Intervention. The council has also set aside £4.5m of pressures over the next three years to fund increases in demand due as a result of an increasing population.

Strategic objectives and the Corporate Plan

9.2.8 The Corporate Plan is the overarching strategic document for the council, setting out its strategic objectives. The 2012/13 Corporate Plan was revised to reflect the new freedoms offered by the new Localism Act.

9.2.9 The current plan is more focused, with a reduced number of objectives, refined performance targets, and clear lines of accountability. The Corporate Plan sits above published Service Plans for each directorate providing a clear link between the council's strategic objectives and the actions each service will take to deliver them. The council's strategic objectives reflect the concerns of residents following a consultation exercise to understand the views of residents in relation to service priorities.

9.2.10 The strategic objectives set out in the Corporate Plan reflect the priorities of residents and achieving them require collaboration between the council and its public sector partners. For example, an objective to keep Barnet safe sets out how the council will work with the police and others to achieve this.

Overarching priorities

9.2.11 It is proposed that the corporate planning process for 2013/14 builds on the current overarching themes in the Corporate Plan which are: **Better Services with less money; Sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities; and A successful London suburb**. The council's strategic objectives sit below these themes. These are set out below:

Better services with less money

- Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults
- Investing in early intervention and prevention to reduce the number of children and families experiencing complex problems.
- An efficient council, with services designed to meet the changing needs of residents

Sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities

- Ensuring every school is a good school for every child, and targeting support at young people at risk of not fulfilling their potential
- Supporting residents to live healthy and independent lives
- Offering greater personalisation for users of care services, a positive experience of care for and support for carers

A successful London suburb

- Working with our partners and residents to keep Barnet safe.
- Protecting the Barnet environment
- Maintaining clean streets, and keeping Barnet moving through efficient management of the roads and pavements network
- Sustain Barnet as a successful place through regeneration, and supporting enterprise and employment

Detailed budgetary review

9.2.12 The Council's budgeting is done on an "incremental" basis, taking the current resource allocation and amending this through targeting of savings and adding additional funding for pressures or priorities. Periodically, it is important that the organisation take a more fundamental review of its entire resource base, considering two fundamental points:

- a) That resource is **allocated in line with political priorities**; and
- b) That resource allocation reflects the "**value added**" from its current deployment. Just because a certain area is deemed to be a priority, does not mean that current way of spending money in that area is effective in delivering outcomes.

9.2.13 This review will start in the latter part of 2012 and run through 2013. It will be comprehensive in assessing the needs and views of customers and residents, it will take into consideration political priorities and will analyse the value of current activity within the Council and commissioned from external providers. This will feed back into the planning process for future years.

New organisational form

9.2.14 The planning process for 2013/14 onwards needs to reflect the changes to the Council organisational structure agreed at General Functions Committee in May. The new structure will have strengthened capacity around commissioning and contract management to manage the system of internal, arms length and external delivery units. The process will need to adapt in a number of ways. For 2013/14, this will involve specifically:

- Ensuring that **formal agreements** on outcomes to be delivered are in place between delivery units and commissioners;
- Ensure that **budgets are reorganised** to reflect the new structure;
- Balancing **flexibility** to amend commissioning plans and **certainty** for delivery units;
- A greater degree of **financial autonomy** for delivery units. It is proposed that this operates by the development of reserves and profit/loss accounts for delivery units who will be able to manage resources over a longer timeframe rather than an annual basis. However, this greater autonomy needs to be earned through sound use of resources; and

- With greater autonomy for delivery units, there needs to be sufficient **incentives** in the system to ensure that different units work together rather than perpetuating a silo based approach to budgeting.

Changes to local government funding

9.2.15 April 2013 will see fundamental changes to the way that local government finance is resourced. The main changes are in respect of business rate retention, Council Tax benefit localisation, the ability for Councils to retain increases in the Council Tax base, and the transfer of Public Health responsibilities. For the Council Tax base, it is expected that the system will be reset in 2013, and will be reset again in 2020.

9.2.16 The Government's NHS reforms, as contained in the Health and Social Care Act 2012, provide an enhanced role for local authorities in system leadership of local health and care. A significant ringfenced budget of ca. £12m will be transferred to the Local Authority. There is an opportunity for local authorities to use this funding more effectively in line with the objectives. However there is a risk that Barnet are one of the most underfunded public health bodies in London compared to its needs assessment and will not have sufficient funds to do anything more than its statutory duties. Under the Act, Health and Well-Being Boards must agree a Strategy for the health and well-being of their local populations. The Strategy has four main themes:

- preparation for a healthy life – that is, enabling the delivery of effective pre-natal advice and maternity care and early-years development;
- wellbeing in the community – that is creating circumstances that better enable people to be healthier and have greater life opportunities;
- how we live – that is enabling and encouraging healthier lifestyles; and
- care when needed – that is providing appropriate care and support to facilitate good outcomes and improve the patient experience.

9.2.17 In respect of Barnet's local authority education functions which feature in Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant (LACSEG), Department of Education (DfE) are exploring with DCLG the top-slicing of formula grant and placing the money within the DfE budget. The DfE would then distribute this funding on a national basis proportionate to pupil numbers in the maintained and Academy sectors. This will be consulted on further over the summer as part of business rates retention scheme consultation.

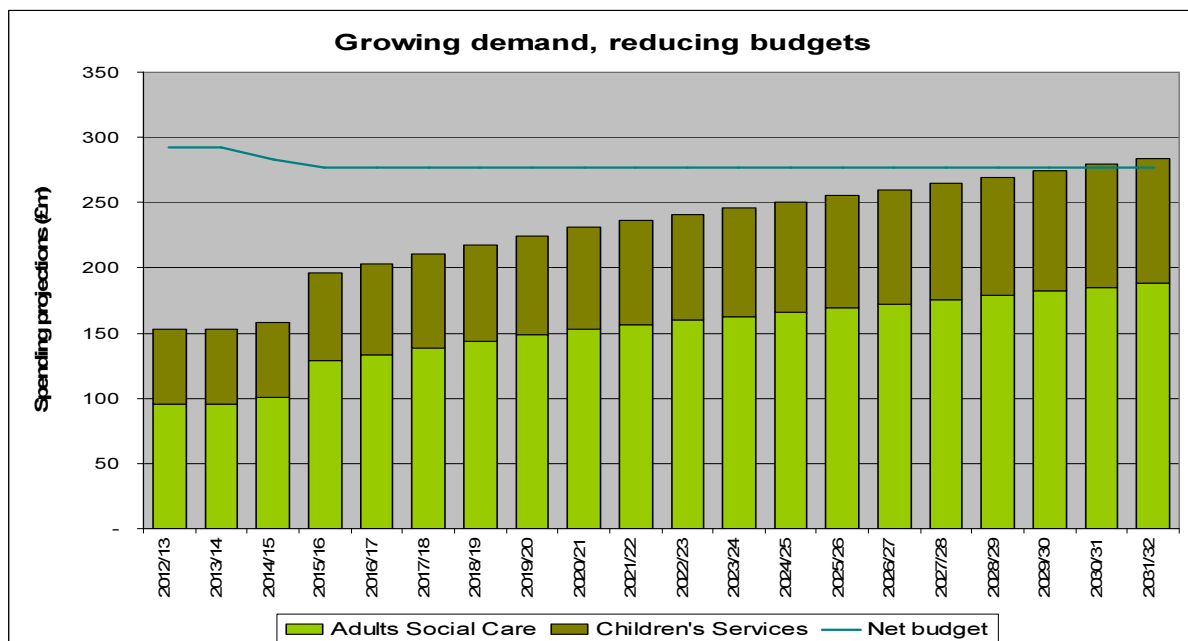
9.2.18 There is real uncertainty over the future of core government grants such as early intervention grant, learning disabilities grant and homelessness grant. Barnet currently receive this funding in addition to its formula grant. In future this could be funded as part of the localisation of business rates.

9.2.19 Schools funding formula is set to change and there is a risk of this significantly impacting the council. Currently around £4m of central expenditure is funded from schools grant. This will be subject to schools 'buy back' in future. Any expenditure not bought back will have to be reduced.

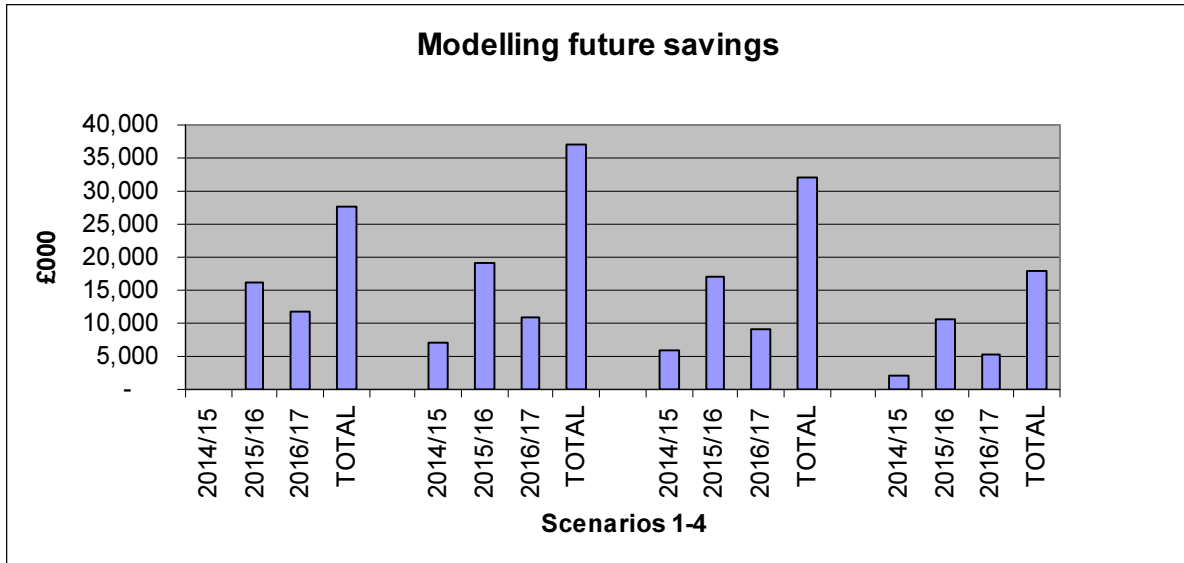
9.3 Longer term planning

Growth and demand management

- 9.3.1 Modelling has been undertaken to understand the impact of growing demand on the council's budget resulting from demographic change, taking into account a range of factors including population increase, inflation and likely legislative changes.
- 9.3.2 Although many factors will change and this graph is illustrative, it shows that, if funding to local government remains flat, the council's entire budget will potentially be spent on Adults Social Care and Children's Services within 17 years.
- 9.3.3 This is relevant to our planning process in a number of ways. Firstly, this picture is used to inform the level of additional investment needed in services to fund demographic changes. Specific detail on investment in demand is already programmed into budgets for Adults and Children's Services. Secondly, it also provides an evidence base to lobby the government about sustainable funding for local government in the future.



- 9.3.4 It is also important to consider longer term financial planning in the context of the change the government is making to business rates and council tax. Growth in Barnet in terms of the local economy and growth in terms of the numbers of properties (i.e. increase in tax base) will have a real positive economic impact.



9.3.5 The graph above shows 4 scenarios which look at potential additional savings **over and above the current MTFS** for the period 2014-17.

9.3.6 Scenario 1 looks at the savings that would need to be made to meet further government austerity between 2015-17, broad details of which have already been indicated by the Treasury. Scenario 2 takes a more pessimistic scenario and assumes that the government will do a further spending review in advance of 2014/15, with further cuts in this year over and above what is already included in the Council's MTFS.

9.3.7 Scenario 3 assumes a level of Council Tax base growth, which starts to reduce the overall additional savings burden for the Council. If this projected Council Tax base growth goes up, and an element of business rate growth is also assumed, as set out in scenario 4, then the savings burden reduces further.

9.3.8 This demonstrates the real financial opportunity for the Council for growth and economic development. The key questions for financial planning are around what activity will successfully lead to growth and economic development, what activity adds real value in this area. The Council's policy planning will need to be aligned to objectives around growth.

9.3.9 There are a number of scenarios that can be run to predict future growth in business rates and Council Tax as set out above. The financial strategy included in Appendix 1 to this report is based on scenario 3. It assumes a growth in the Council Tax base, but it does not assume growth in business rates as there is currently uncertainty over how retention will work in practice.

9.4 Medium Term Financial Strategy

9.4.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy is the document that sets out all of the budget changes over the relevant planning period, including assumptions

around inflation, changes to levies, pressures, savings and grant funding. It is the model around which the Council's financial strategy is based.

9.4.2 When the budget was set in March 2012, the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) reflected a budget gap of £35.6m, with savings proposals enabling a balanced position to be set over the three year period.

| | 2012/13 £m | 2013/14 £m | 2014/15 £m | Total £m |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Budget Gap March 2012 (incl. pressures) | 13.1 | 11.2 | 11.3 | 35.6 |
| Savings proposals | (13.1) | (11.2) | (11.3) | (35.6) |
| Final Gap | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

9.4.3 Now that the 2012/13 budget has been set and is being delivered, the planning process needs to look at the period from 2013/14 to 2015/16. A settlement has not been announced at a national or local level for this period so the MTFS has been updated using scenario planning.

9.4.4 Other factors have also been updated (any known changes to legislation, council tax base, and changes to levies). The updated MTFS for 2013/14 to 2015/16 is as follows:

| | 2013/14 £m | 2014/15 £m | 2015/16 £m | Total £m |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|
| Revised Budget Gap | 12.9 | 19.5 | 16.9 | 49.3 |
| Pressures | 1.6 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 4.5 |
| Savings proposals | (14.4) | (15.3) | 0 | (29.8) |
| Gap | 0 | 6.1 | 17.9 | 24.0 |

9.4.5 The detailed MTFS with assumptions is included in **Appendix 1**. The changes that have been made to the model as agreed in the budget report in March 2012 are as follows:

- Future grant funding (or future retained business rate funding) has been **reduced by 10% per annum in 2014/15 and 2015/16**. This reflects the latest predictions around further cuts to local government funding from 2014 onwards;
- Contingency was originally held in 2014/15 of £4m for risks associated with potential further cuts funding in that year. Now that the financial model assumes a further cut in funding, this **contingency has been reduced** – as this is what it was originally set aside for;
- Projected **increases in the Council Tax base** have been added into the financial model to reflect the fact that Councils will now be able to keep this growth in funding rather than having to pass it back to central government;
- The effect of **Council Tax benefit localisation** has been added to contingency, including an annual increase in the funding needed to

support this. This assumes a 10% cut in grant funding and also factors in the potential additional take up. There are additional risks here in terms of changes to take up of the new Council Tax support discount, but there are also ways to mitigate the financial pressure by passing the cut on to benefit recipients and reviewing other exemptions and discounts;

- Assumptions around the future **North London waste levy** have been amended to reflect the latest projections; and
- Future **capital financing costs** have been amended in line with the latest spend profile. Further provision has been made for capital financing costs in 2015/16 reflecting potential future spending pressures (for example school places) and also risks around the delivery of capital receipt projections.

9.4.6 The Council Tax increases for the period are set at 2.5%. Inflation on goods and services is assumed to be 2.5% for 2013-16, and pay inflation is set at 1% in line with Treasury public sector projections. Public health grant projections have not been added to the MTFS yet, but these will be incorporated in the autumn when indicative budget allocations will have been published.

9.4.7 The MTFS sets the parameters for the development of savings across the organisation. Directorates will specifically be asked to undertake the following tasks:

- 1. To review current savings proposals for 2013/14 and 2014/15, ensuring they are in line with strategic objectives;**
- 2. To review efficiency measures and ensure that these are maximised, substituting frontline service cuts for efficiency measures where possible; and**
- 3. To develop additional savings proposals for 2014/15 and 2015/16.**

Savings targets

9.4.8 Savings targets remain the same for 2013/14 and 2014/15. Already factored into the MTFS is £29.7m Given more pessimistic assumptions for local government funding, for 2014/15 and 2015/16, an additional budget gap of £6.1m and £17.9m respectively exist and savings targets will be allocated to departments. Savings proposals already agreed in the MTFS are as follows:

| | 2013/14 £m Revised | 2014/15 £m Original |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | 14.4 | 15.3 |
| Adults | (3.9) | (5.7) |
| Children's | (4.6) | (3.9) |
| Environment Planning & Regeneration | (3.2) | (3.4) |
| Corporate Governance | (0.2) | (0.2) |
| Deputy Chief Executive | (0.5) | (0.5) |
| Commercial | (1.2) | (1.3) |
| Chief Executive | (0.8) | (0.3) |
| Gap | 0 | 0 |

9.4.9 On top of the existing savings target, additional savings are required in 2014/15 and a new saving's target set for 2015/16.

The table below shows this savings targets based on the new structure.

| | Savings 14/15 £m | Savings 15/16 £m |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Savings Targets | 6.1 | 17.9 |
| Adults & Communities | (2.6) | (7.9) |
| Children's Service | (1.8) | (5.2) |
| Street Scene | (0.3) | (1.0) |
| New Support & Customer Service Organisation | (0.7) | (2.0) |
| Development & Regulatory Services | (0.1) | (0.3) |
| Barnet Group (HNR) | (0.1) | (0.3) |
| Legal | (0.1) | (0.2) |
| Parking | (0.1) | (0.2) |
| Strategic Commissioning Group | (0.3) | (0.8) |
| Gap | 0 | 0 |

* Savings that are realised on NSCSO and DRS core services over and above the level already included in the MTFs will be taken off these figures when these are known.

9.5 Performance and consultation

9.5.1 As in previous years, the Council has developed a plan to support services and senior managers engaged in the Finance and Business Planning with good quality consultation insight about public priorities and perceptions. To meet the changing needs of the organisation, this plan proposes three complementary waves of consultation to generate insight into the needs, views and expectations of residents in different parts of the borough. This activity will inform the next iteration of the Corporate Plan, new commissioning plans for 2013/14 onwards, and provide information to budget managers when designing future savings options. In addition, it will establish a platform for delivering other strategic activities, specifically those related to co-production, localism and the transfer of responsibilities to residents.

9.5.2 Under the Localism Act, the requirement on local authorities to consult with residents and include local views in shaping decisions has been strengthened. The following three waves of consultation take Barnet a long way towards fulfilling this obligation, through visibly engaging citizens to inform the development of strategic policy. The three waves, intended to be complementary in their output, are:

- **Wave One (June/July):** Consultation in four local areas, providing insight on sense of place, expectations, core council resident perception measures¹ and local priorities, and opening a dialogue around 'the deal' between state and citizen. This will inform the development of the 2013/14 Corporate Plan,

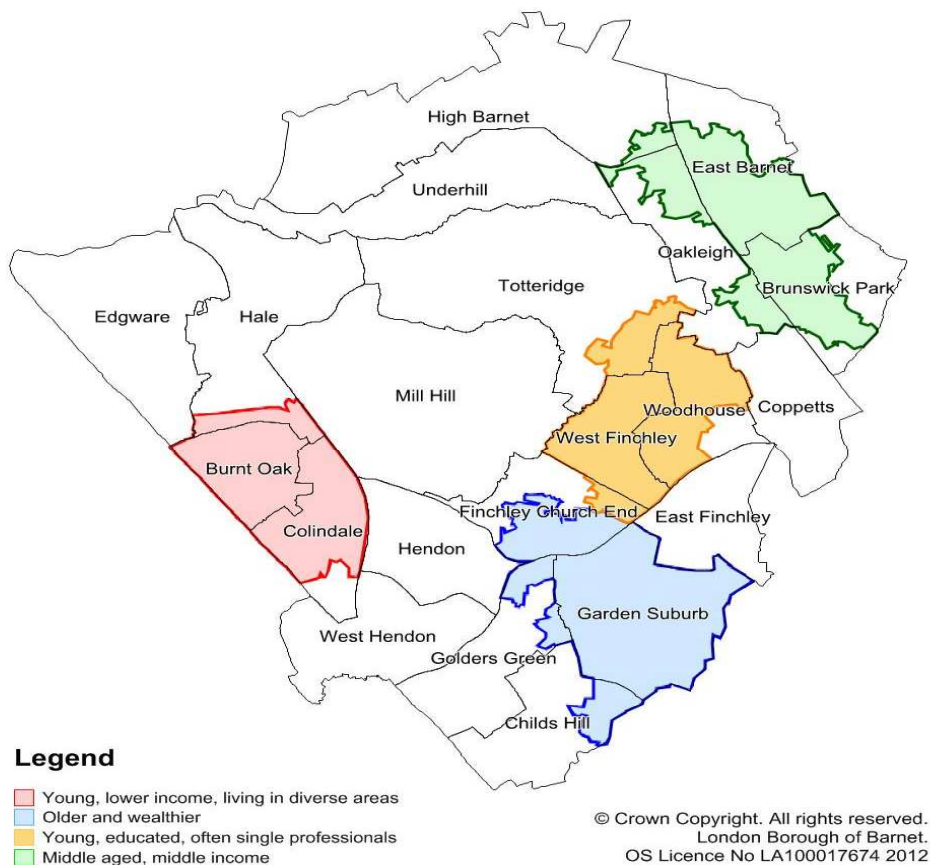
¹ Overall satisfaction with the local area, satisfaction with the council, VFM, social cohesion and civic engagement

commissions, and provide additional insight to help budget managers shape new savings and prioritise options.

- **Wave Two (September):** Residents Perceptions Survey (RPS), providing borough-wide understanding of priorities, core council resident perception measures². This will be used to measure our direction of travel since the last RPS, challenge and review draft strategies, commissions and budget options.
- **Wave Three (November):** Budget consultations, providing opportunities for residents to respond to specific budget options (as per 2012/13 process).

9.5.3 A framework has been developed for clustering the borough into areas of relative similarity based on a number of indicators. Although Barnet is a diverse borough with many different communities, this analysis has identified four areas from which the local samples can be drawn.

Proposed consultation areas



The consultation will focus on ward-level areas within the identified zones to facilitate the recruitment of local participants. The wards selected are Burnt Oak, Garden Suburb, West Finchley and East Barnet.

² The RPS survey will be based on the last survey but realigned to this year's strategic context and agenda

9.5.4 This cycle will need to identify key performance issues within quarterly monitoring reports and ensure that these are dealt with in the planning process for 2013/14.

9.6 Organisational change and equalities impact

9.6.1 The spending review set out significant reductions in resources available for local government over a four year period, so the next few years of business planning will continue to see significant organisational change. This will need to be managed as effectively as possible.

9.6.2 We have a three year budget strategy and are committed to planning well in advance for the implementation of savings. Given this lead in time, services have sufficient time to plan for this and they will be expected to ensure that staffing reductions are managed through vacancies and natural turnover of staff wherever possible.

9.6.3 In order to achieve this managed reduction in staff numbers the Council has implemented a people strategy which recognises that the management of its workforce is one of its most significant challenges as it needs to retain talented and engaged staff whether employed by LBB or with our partner organisations. This people strategy is predicated on redundancies being proposed only where the service is either being ceased or changed, practically this means that there is no voluntary redundancy. This in turn ensures that we retain the skills to deliver our services, plus we look to redeploy staff where possible, again to retain valuable skills and knowledge. This is being achieved by creating a flexible workforce of agency and fixed term contract staff who will be released from their positions where displaced permanent staff are able to be redeployed into those roles. This strategy has meant that in the financial year 2010-11 that there were approximately 150 fewer redundancies than expected.

9.6.4 To ensure that the focus is on building this flexible workforce and so that skills and knowledge are retained the planning assumption is that redundancy and the associated costs will be kept to a minimum. It is not therefore anticipated that there will be central funding of redundancy, payment in lieu of notice or pension strain for 2013/14.

9.6.5 Should there be a need for a programme of redundancies then this will be subject to a full equality impact assessment.

9.6.6 When budget proposals were agreed in March 2012, communities facing equality impact assessments were carried out on each savings proposal. In some instances, it was difficult to assess the equality impact with any certainty at that time. A review of the impact of these decisions will be carried out and will be reported back to Cabinet as part of the finance and business planning process in the autumn.

9.7 Timetable

9.7.1 The timetable set out below which runs from June 2012 to March 2013 is summarised below.

Stage 1 identification of strategic objectives and resource gaps

- July - Cabinet

Stage 2 consultation and development/review of draft business plans

- June – end August – draft plans completed by services in consultation with portfolio holders
- July – September – consultation with public
- September – internal challenge/review meetings
- November – Cabinet report on budget headlines and draft corporate plan objectives

Stage 3 formal consultation and ratification of budget and One Barnet plan

- December – January – formal consultation on proposals
- February & March – budget and Corporate Plan ratified through democratic process

10 List of background papers

10.1 None

Legal – SL

CFO – MC/JH

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| Medium Term Financial Plan | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 | 2015/16 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| Budget brought forward | 290,875 | 291,998 | 304,147 | 299,507 |
| Gap B/F | | | (12,890) | (19,507) |
| Statutory/cost drivers | | | | |
| Inflation (pay) | 873 | 1,198 | 1,210 | 1,210 |
| Inflation (non-pay) | 3,007 | 3,057 | 3,057 | 3,057 |
| NLWA levy | (700) | 2,229 | 1,504 | 500 |
| Capital financing costs | 2,250 | 2,250 | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| Statutory/cost drivers sub-total | 5,430 | 8,734 | 7,271 | 6,267 |
| Central Expenses | | | | |
| CT Base - Long Term Empty Discounts | | 1,000 | | |
| Contingency | 1,331 | 652 | 500 | 500 |
| CT Benefit Reduction | | 3,100 | 600 | 600 |
| Concessionary Fares | 605 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| Full year effect of 2010/11 savings | (59) | (17) | | |
| Central Expenses sub-total | 1,877 | 5,735 | 2,100 | 2,100 |
| Balances to/(from) reserves | | | | |
| Specific reserves contribution 2011/12 | (6,546) | | | |
| Specific reserves contribution 2012/13 | 11,141 | (11,141) | | |
| Specific reserves contribution 2013/14 | | 8,821 | (8,821) | |
| Specific reserves contribution 2014/15 | | | 7,700 | (7,700) |
| Specific reserves contribution 2015/16 | | | | 8,990 |
| Specific reserves contribution 2016/17 | | | | |
| Reserves sub-total | 4,595 | (2,320) | (1,121) | 1,290 |
| Total expenditure | 302,777 | 304,147 | 299,507 | 289,657 |
| Formula grant funding | | | | |
| Formula Grant | 90,635 | | | |
| Business Rates collected | | 108,566 | 112,041 | 114,617 |
| Business Rates growth (based on RPI March 2012) | | 3,474 | 2,577 | 2,865 |
| Topslice 29.25% | | (31,756) | (32,772) | (33,526) |
| Business Rates tariff | | (2,918) | (2,985) | (3,060) |
| Business Rates adjustment | | 11,925 | 3,604 | 1,279 |
| *Additional expected annual reduction in funding from spending review | | | (8,521) | (15,629) |
| New Formula grant sub-total | 90,635 | 89,291 | 73,943 | 66,548 |
| Council Tax | | | | |
| Council tax | 159,386 | 164,684 | 169,643 | 174,902 |
| Council Tax grant 11/12 Freeze | 3,886 | 3,886 | 3,886 | 0 |
| Proposed Council Tax grant 12/13 Freeze | 3,887 | | | |
| Core grants | | | | |
| Early intervention grant | 14,499 | 12,540 | 11,286 | 10,157 |
| Homelessness grant | 700 | 625 | 563 | 506 |
| PFI credit | 2,235 | 2,235 | 2,012 | 1,810 |
| HB and CT Admin | 2,813 | 2,643 | 2,379 | 2,141 |
| Learning disabilities | 10,694 | 9,543 | 8,589 | 7,730 |
| New Homes Bonus | 3,000 | 5,810 | 7,700 | 8,990 |
| Additional grant income (notified after Budget set in March 2011) | 263 | | | |
| Other funding sub-total | 201,363 | 201,966 | 206,056 | 206,237 |
| Total Income from grant and Council Tax | 291,998 | 291,257 | 280,000 | 272,784 |
| Budget Gap before savings | 10,779 | 12,890 | 19,507 | 16,873 |
| Savings | (13,301) | (14,440) | (15,340) | 0 |
| Agreed Pressures | 2,522 | 1,550 | 1,944 | 0 |
| Proposed Pressures | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 |
| Budget Gap after savings | 0 | 0 | 6,111 | 17,873 |

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| | |
|----------------|---|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 July 2012 |
| Subject | Safeguarding in Barnet |
| Report of | Cabinet Member for Education, Children and Families Cabinet Member for Adults Cabinet Member for Safety and Resident Engagement Cabinet Member for Public Health |
| Summary | This report provides Members with an overview of governance arrangements and activity as it relates to the Council’s safeguarding responsibilities. |

| | |
|---|--|
| Officer Contributors | Robert McCulloch-Graham, Director, Children’s Service Dawn Wakeling, Deputy Director, Adults Social Care and Health Jay Mercer, Deputy Director, Children’s Service Ann Graham, Assistant Director Social Care, Children’s Service Bridget Griffin, Divisional Manager Safeguarding Sue Smith, Safeguarding Adults Manager Stav Yiannou, Divisional Manager, Safeguarding, Prevention and Partnership Paul Lamb, Community Protection Group Manager Siobhan McGovern, Designated Nurse, Safeguarding Children Elaine Tuck, Strategy and Planning Manager, Children’s Service Lindsey Hyde, Strategy and Projects Officer, Children’s Service |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Key Decision | No |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | Not applicable |
| Function of | Council/Executive |
| Enclosures | Appendix 1: The Governance of Safeguarding in Barnet Appendix 2: Further information on the key safeguarding governance structures in Barnet |
| Contact for Further Information: | Lindsey.hyde@barnet.gov.uk , 020 8359 7994 |

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. RECOMMENDATIONS | p3 |
| 2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS | p3 |
| 3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS | p3 |
| 4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES | p3 |
| 5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES | p4 |
| 6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS | p6 |
| 7. LEGAL ISSUES | p7 |
| 8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS | p9 |
| 9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION | p9 |
| Update on last year's recommendations | p10 |
| Listening to the views of children, young people and adult service users | p13 |
| Trends and issues | p14 |
| Key Developments | p16 |
| Supporting a learning culture | p18 |
| Future challenges and opportunities | p21 |
| APPENDIX 1 | p23 |
| APPENDIX 2 | p24 |

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Cabinet requests full Council to note the content of this report which outlines governance arrangements and activity as it relates to the Council and partners' safeguarding responsibilities.

1.2 That Cabinet notes and comments on the progress made in relation to safeguarding since last year, including in response to the recommendations set out in 9.2.

1.3 That an annual report on safeguarding continues to be submitted to Cabinet and Council.

1.4 That safeguarding across the Council and partners continues to be strengthened through the full engagement of all providers of health services, including through the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

2.1 Council, 12 July 2011, Decision Item 4.1.1: 'Safeguarding in Barnet' (Report of Cabinet).

2.2 Cabinet, 15 June 2011, Decision Item 5: 'Safeguarding in Barnet' (Report of the Cabinet Members for Education, Children and Families, Cabinet Member for Adults, Cabinet Member for Community Safety and Cohesion and Cabinet Member for Health).

2.3 Council, 3 November 2009, agreed to note safeguarding activities and governance arrangements set out in the Cabinet Members' report.

2.4 Cabinet, 21 October 2009, Decision Item 5: 'Safeguarding in Barnet' (Report of the Cabinet Members for Children's Services and Community Services).

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Safeguarding is a key priority for the Council and safeguarding children and adults from avoidable harm or abuse underpins everything we do. Safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone who works for or with the London Borough of Barnet.

3.2 The Corporate Plan 2012/13 outlines the Council's commitment to safeguarding which underpins everything we do and aims to protect the most vulnerable people, both children and adults, from avoidable harm or abuse. The Corporate Plan includes the strategic objectives 'Safeguarding vulnerable children and adults', and 'Working with our partners and residents to keep Barnet safe.' A survey of residents' priorities for Barnet (2011) identified crime and community safety services as one of the top three concerns of Barnet residents. Our aim is to work with partners such as the police, the NHS and with residents to ensure that Barnet remains a place where people want to live and where people feel safe. These are reflected in both Adults Services and Children's Service business plans.

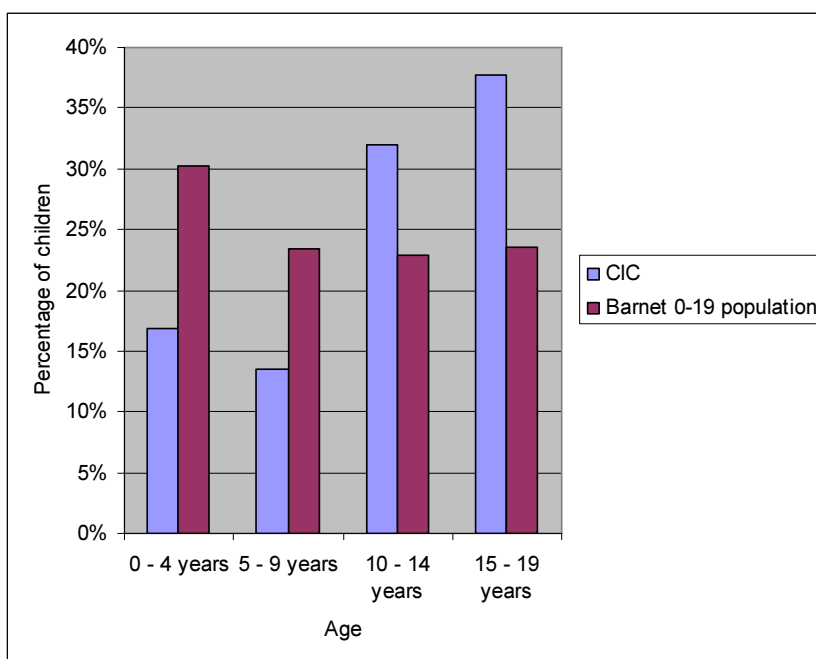
4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 A failure to keep children or vulnerable adults safe represents not only a significant risk to residents but also to the reputation of the Council. Failure to keep children safe is identified as a key risk in the Children's Service, a key risk for Adult Social Care and is also embedded within the Community Safety team risk register. Although safeguarding must be the concern of all agencies working with children and vulnerable adults, the Local Authority is the lead agency for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. As such, both members and senior officers carry a level of accountability for safeguarding practice in Barnet. Governance structures are in place to ensure that other lead stakeholders, including health and the police, are represented to ensure that practice across the partnership meets safeguarding requirements.
- 4.2 There are a number of strategic boards with oversight of safeguarding, as outlined in appendix 1 of this report. Links between these boards have been strengthened in recent years to support joined up working. Furthermore, a single Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Safeguarding has been introduced to help to provide Councillors with greater oversight of safeguarding issues across the Council. There remain ongoing challenges to ensure that learning related to safeguarding is effectively coordinated and disseminated across service areas and partner agencies.
- 4.3 There are a number of areas where the Council and its partners are undergoing significant change in terms of governance and practice in relation to economic challenge, and service improvement. This paper outlines the current arrangements to safeguard the outcomes for children and vulnerable adults. Further work will be undertaken to ensure these functions remain compliant as the Council and its partners address the changes required. Barnet Safeguarding Children Board, Adults Safeguarding Board and the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be kept updated and will be consulted with regard to any changes.
- 4.4 The Secretary of State for Education has the power to intervene if he considers that a Local Authority is failing in its safeguarding duties toward children. This is considered to be a low risk in Barnet; the recent Ofsted and CQC inspection of safeguarding and looked after children judged safeguarding services and outcomes for looked after children as good overall in Barnet. Nevertheless, a risk remains should insufficient regard be paid to the Council's statutory responsibilities relating to safeguarding.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 Equality and diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in decision-making in the Council pursuant to the Equality Act 2010. This means the Council and all other organisations acting on its behalf must have due regard to the equality duties when exercising a public function. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality and good relations into day to day business requiring equality considerations to be reflected into the design of policies and the delivery of services and for these to be kept under review.

5.2 As at 31 March 2012¹, males were overrepresented in the children in care population; 59.7% of children in care were male, compared with 51.1% of males in Barnet's 0-19 population². 18.3% of the children in care population were Black/Black British children compared to 14.3% of the 0-19 population. In contrast, children with ethnicities of White British/White Irish/White Other make up only 46.4% of the children in care population, but make up 56.9% of the 0-19 population. As demonstrated in the graph below, children aged 0-4 years and 5-9 years are underrepresented in the children in care population, and children and young people aged 10-14 years and 15-19 years³ are overrepresented in the children in care population. Barnet will continue to monitor the demographic profile of children at risk and children in care and will seek to address the differences which are identified.



5.3 Over half of the adults referred to Adults Safeguarding services in 2011/12 were over the age of 65, and nearly a quarter aged 85 or over. This largely reflects the age profile of Barnet service users receiving a care package throughout the year, although safeguarding cases involve higher proportions of younger adults, particularly those aged between 30-44, and a lower proportion of older adults, particularly those over the age of 85.

| | 18-44 | 45-64 | 65-74 | 75-84 | 85+ | N/A |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----|
| Safeguarding cases, 2011/12 | 143 27% | 103 19% | 65 12% | 97 18% | 126 24% | 6 |
| Care packages, 2011/12 | 18% | 17% | 11% | 22% | 33% | |

5.4 42% of all Adults Safeguarding cases concerned men, compared to only 33% last year. This increase has occurred across all age groups, but in particular amongst those aged under 65. Compared with women, men are more likely to

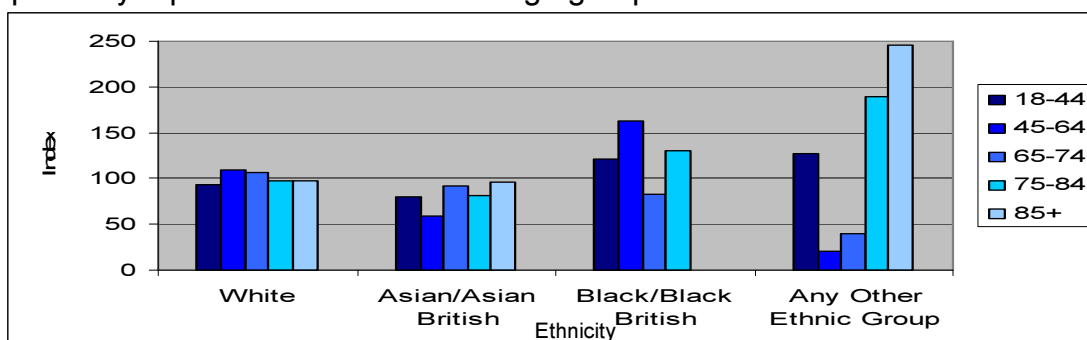
¹ Provisional
² As at November 2011
³ 15-18 for children in care

be abused by paid carers, and less likely by family and friends. Where they are abused by family friends this is more likely to be a friend or neighbour (13.5% compared to 5% of women).

5.5 Ethnicity was recorded for 523 of 534 vulnerable adults. Of these 523 adults, 73% were from a White ethnic background, 9.4% were from an Asian background, 9.4% from a Black background, and the remaining 7.6% were from other ethnic groups, including Chinese and Middle Eastern groupings. Despite the numbers increasing from last year, the proportion of alerts involving white adults dropped significantly from 80% to 73%. The number of cases involving Black/Black British adults has increased by more than 50% and the number of cases involving adults from Chinese and any other ethnic group more than doubled. It should be noted that the percentages relate to relatively small cohorts.

| Ethnic grouping | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | 2011/12 |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| White | 282 | 313 | 379 | 385 |
| Asian / Asian British | 21 | 34 | 46 | 49 |
| Black / Black British | 17 | 29 | 32 | 49 |
| Any Other Ethnic Group | 23 | 24 | 18 | 40 |
| Ethnicity not known | 2 | 20 | 21 | 11 |

5.6 The chart below shows how the 2011/12 case list compares to the 2012 population estimates for Barnet; an index of 100 means that the case list is perfectly representative within that age group.



The figures show that cases involving White adults make up roughly the proportion that we would expect; there are fewer cases involving Asian adults, and there are generally more cases than we would expect involving Black adults (particularly younger adults) and adults from other ethnic groups (in this case those aged 75+).

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

6.1 There are no significant resource implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

6.2 The demographic funding pressure of an ageing population and the likely requirement for additional resources in Adult Social Services has been recognised in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. £800,000 has been allocated to the Adults budget for each of 2012/13 and 2013/14, with £1.194m allocated for demographic pressures in 2014/15.

- 6.3 The increasing demand for Children's safeguarding and social care services has been recognised as a pressure over the next three years, with £750,000 allocated each year for demand led statutory and targeted services. In 2011/12, the Children's Service invested £1m in early intervention and prevention services, providing earlier support to reduce the number of children and families experiencing complex problems.
- 6.4 Safeguarding training is currently provided and is allowed for within Children's Service, Adult Social Care and Health, and Community Safety budgets.
- 6.5 The current annual budget of the Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) is £98,000, most of which covers the staffing requirements including the Independent Chairs of the BSCB and the Serious Case Review Panel. This budget includes the contributions made by partner agencies.
- 6.6 The current annual budget for the Safeguarding Adults Board is £182,000 most of which covers three specialist safeguarding posts and the post of independent Chair, and training for the health and social care workforce. This year the board has secured a financial contribution from most of the statutory partners towards these costs.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 A brief summary of the relevant statutory provisions and guidance relating to safeguarding for both children and adults is given below:
- 7.2 Parts 3, 4 and 5 of the Children Act 1989 (CA 1989) together with statutory guidance place various statutory duties upon local authorities including the general duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children within their area who are in need. In cases where children are found to be at risk of significant harm as defined in the CA 1989, the Local Authority has a clear legal duty to take steps to protect them by invoking the powers contained in Part 4 of the CA 1989. Upon being satisfied that the relevant criteria are met and that an Order is necessary for the protection of the child, the Court may grant an interim care or supervision order as an interim measure when care proceedings are commenced. An interim care order (placing the child in the care of the Local Authority) will give the Local Authority parental responsibility whereas an interim supervision order will put the child under the supervision of the Local Authority. At the conclusion of the proceedings the court will determine whether a final care or supervision order should be made.
- 7.3 The Children Act 2004 (CA 2004) provides the legislative framework for integrated planning, commissioning and delivery of children's services and for lines of accountability through the appointment of directors of all Children's Services. It created a statutory framework for local co-operation between local authorities, key partner agencies (health, police, schools, housing, early years, youth justice, probation etc) and other relevant bodies including the voluntary and community sector, in order to improve the wellbeing of children in the area. This provided for the framework for Children's Trusts within which agencies have been able to integrate commissioning and delivery of children's services with arrangements for pooled budgets. Barnet has chosen to keep a Children's Trust Board and to publish a Children and Young People Plan each

year. The Act also imposes a duty on the relevant agencies to carry out their functions having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to guidance provided by the Secretary of State. The duty continues to apply where services are contracted out.

In addition, sections 18 and 19 of the CA 2004 impose a duty on the children's services authority to appoint a director of children's services (DCS) and a lead member for children's services (LMCS) respectively for the purposes of the functions conferred on or exercisable by the authority as prescribed by statute.

- 7.4 In April 2012, the Department for Education updated the statutory guidance on the roles and responsibilities of the DCS and the LMCS. Pursuant to s18(7) of the CA 2004 a children's services authority *must* have regard to any guidance given to them and should only depart from it with good reason. One of the key aspects of this guidance is that given the breadth and importance of children's services functions that the DCS and LMCS cover, local authorities should give due consideration to protecting their discrete roles and responsibilities before allocating to them any additional functions other than children's services.
- 7.5 The CA 2004 also requires Local Authorities to establish Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) for their area and it has been a requirement for local authorities to have a board since 2006. The LSCB replaced the former non statutory Area child Protection Committees. The intention of Parliament was for the LSCB to have a wider remit than ACPCs and to be more pro-active. The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 subsequently introduced a requirement for the LSCB to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area.
- 7.6 Statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children (2010) sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in accordance with the Children Act 1989 and the CA 2004. The latest version (2010) followed the publication of Lord Laming's report. Following the Munro Review, the government will make a full revision of Working Together to Safeguard Children. This is currently expected by July 2012.
- 7.7 The legal framework for the provision of adult social care services dates back to 1948 and has been described by the Law Commission as a complex, incoherent and confusing patchwork of legislation. The duties, powers and responsibilities conferred upon local authorities to ensure that appropriate steps can be taken to protect and safeguard vulnerable adults can be found in a number of statutes, including the National Assistance Act 1948, the Mental Health Acts of 1983 and 2007, the NHS & Community Care Act 1990, the Human Rights Act 1998, the Domestic Violence Crime & Victims Act 2004 and the Mental Capacity Act 2005 including the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards confer certain protections to people who lack capacity in care and health settings. A change in terminology by practitioners from "protecting vulnerable adults" to "adult protection work" and now "safeguarding adults" reflects the change in context over the years and the out of date legislation. The phrase "Safeguarding adults" referred to in the 2005 ADSS report means all work which enables an adult *"who is or may be eligible for community care services"* to retain independence, wellbeing and choice and to access their

human right to live a life that is free from abuse and neglect. This definition specifically includes those people who are assessed as being able to purchase all or part of their community care services, as well as those who are eligible for community care services but whose need - in relation to safeguarding - is for access to mainstream services such as the police.

- 7.8 “No secrets: guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse” was issued by the Department of Health and the Home Office in 2000 under section 7 of the Local Authorities Social Services Act. It provides guidance to local authorities on developing and implementing multiagency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse.
- 7.9 The Law Commission undertook a review of adult social care legislation and reported in May 2011. It provides the foundation for the most significant reform of adult social care law in 60 years. It recommends a single, unified adult social care statute that will consolidate, modernise and simplify the law which will bring much needed clarity and accessibility to this key area of the law for service users and practitioners. The report recommends strengthening the law in relation to safeguarding adults placing clear duties on the authority that will have lead co-ordinating responsibility for multi-agency safeguarding procedures. It also recommends placing safeguarding boards on a statutory footing. . The government is pressing ahead with reform of adult social care legislation and the Queen’s speech on 9 May 2012 announced a draft Bill on adult social care.
- 7.10 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a duty on a Local Authority and other relevant authorities to exercise their functions to do all that is reasonably practical to prevent crime and disorder in its area.
- 7.11 A range of legislation such as the Licensing Act 2003, Gambling Act 2005, Anti Social Behaviour Act 2003, confer certain powers and responsibilities upon local authorities to ensure that vulnerable adults and children are safeguarded.
- 7.12 A range of legislation such as the Equality Act 2010, Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006, Public Order Act 1996, Criminal Justice Act 2003, confer certain powers and responsibilities on authorities to ensure that Hate Crime is treated with a specific focus.
- 7.13 Section 9 of the Domestic Violence, Crime and Victims Act 2004 creates an expectation for local areas to undertake a multi-agency review following a domestic violence homicide. This came into force on 13 April 2011.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1 As set out in Part 3 of the Council’s Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, the Executive holds responsibility for those functions which comprise safeguarding. Furthermore, several specific safeguarding functions are delegated to individual Cabinet Members.
- 8.2 Responsibility for enhancing the Council’s corporate parenting role is delegated specifically to the Cabinet Member for Education, Children and

Families. However, in reflecting both the cross-cutting importance of safeguarding, and the wider relevance of the authority's role as a corporate parent, Cabinet are asked to refer their report on safeguarding to Council for consideration and noting on an annual basis.

- 8.3 This is not a key decision as it does not involve significant expenditure and does not require a decision that could impact on more than one ward.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 The Council has a statutory duty to promote the safeguarding of both children and vulnerable adults. Safeguarding children is defined by the Department for Education as protecting children from maltreatment, preventing impairment of children's health or development, and ensuring children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care. A vulnerable adult is defined as anybody over the age of 18 years who is or may be in need of Community Care Services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness and is or may be unable to take care of himself or herself or is unable to protect themselves against significant harm or serious exploitation. The Council also has statutory duties to help prevent crime and disorder and anti social behaviour, and to ensure that Hate Crime is treated with a specific focus.

9.1.1 In 2011 it was resolved that an annual report on safeguarding in Barnet would go to Cabinet and Council to support effective scrutiny and oversight. This report provides an update on the implementation of recommendations approved by Council on 12 July 2011. It also highlights key developments over the past 12 months, outlines how Barnet is responding to and learning from these, and sets out some emerging challenges and opportunities.

9.1.2 Further information on the safeguarding activities of the Barnet Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board can be found in their respective annual reports, which are due to go to the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

9.2 Update on last year's recommendations

9.2.1 *An annual report on safeguarding continues to be submitted to Cabinet and Council.*

This report fulfils this recommendation and outlines the work that has been undertaken to address the recommendations and future issues set out in last year's report.

9.2.2 *Cabinet requests full Council to note the content of this report, in particular the formal governance arrangements that exist to ensure that the Council conducts its statutory safeguarding responsibilities properly, and the present safeguarding activity undertaken by the Council and its partner agencies.*

A robust governance framework is in place to ensure that safeguarding duties are appropriately carried out and scrutinised, as set out in appendix 1. Further detail on the key structures within Barnet that help to provide effective oversight of safeguarding is contained in appendix 2. In summary they are:

- Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Barnet Partnership Board
- Safer Communities Partnership Board

- Children's Trust Board
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Barnet Safeguarding Children Board
- Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board

To provide assurance to these boards there are some key internal mechanisms. Safeguarding processes are embedded into HR and recruitment and performance indicators are regularly reported to monitor the provision of safeguarding services and to identify trends requiring further analysis. Audit and quality assurance frameworks are also in place in Children's Service, Adults Services and Health Services to ensure that responsibilities in relation to safeguarding are being effectively undertaken. The recent Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) Review and Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children have strengthened Children's Service audit work over the past year. More information on outcomes of the Ofsted inspection can be found in 9.6.1 and more information on the SCIE Review can be found in 9.6.4. The findings of Children's Service case audits are examined in detail, with action plans developed and recommendations made in relation to thematic issues which emerge. As part of the quality assurance framework for Adult Services, case audits are undertaken by safeguarding practice leads in conjunction with Heads of Service, with action plans developed where practice needs improvement. Independent case audit and peer case audits are taking place in 2012 to inform practice development at an individual case and service wide basis.

9.2.3 *Safeguarding training continues to be part of the induction process for newly-elected Members and senior officers/directors, and that opportunities for updated and ongoing training for current Members and Officers continue to be provided.*

A multi-agency safeguarding training programme continues to be delivered to officers. Safeguarding Member development sessions have been delivered over the past year, covering issues such as how the Council keeps residents safe, how to recognise a safeguarding concern and the Council's role as a corporate parent. All Members, including newly-elected Members, are encouraged to attend these sessions which are run periodically throughout the year and are given a particular focus during safeguarding month.

9.2.4 *The agreed safeguarding procurement standards are put into effect.*

Over the past year, safeguarding changes in relation to procurement have been implemented across the Council. The Council's standard terms and conditions have been updated to correctly capture the Council's policy on safeguarding. The safeguarding self assessment form presented last year to Cabinet has been incorporated within the Council's safeguarding contract clauses, requiring providers to submit the safeguarding self assessment form within 14 days upon request from the contract owner. In addition, there have been localised developments within service areas. As part of Children's Service tender processes, the pre-qualification questionnaire has been updated to include questions covering safeguarding accountability structures, safer recruitment practices, and staff training and development in relation to safeguarding. All providers are still required to submit their safeguarding and whistle-blowing policies.

A safeguarding adults specification is included in all care group contracts with providers including residential and nursing care, supported living and home and community support. This has been extended to include all health contracts. Adults Services Supply Management and Commissioning Team are currently developing enhanced ways of working to improve Quality Monitoring procedures and development of supplier relationships which can lead to better service delivery and reduction of poor care and other incidents. There will be continuing involvement and dialogue through the Adults Safeguarding Board and Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure that all providers of NHS services, including Primary and Acute Care, are fully involved in the safeguarding agenda.

- 9.2.5 *There is continuing involvement and dialogue through the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure that all providers of NHS services, including Primary and Acute Care, are fully involved in the safeguarding agenda.*
- In order to join up commissioning and support integration of local NHS services, social care and health improvement, the Health and Wellbeing Board receives updates on assessments of Quality and Safety in health services in Barnet and North Central London. A work programme has been developed by the Board for 2012/13, part of which will be focussed on continuing to ensure that all providers of NHS services, including Primary and Acute Care, are fully involved in the safeguarding agenda.

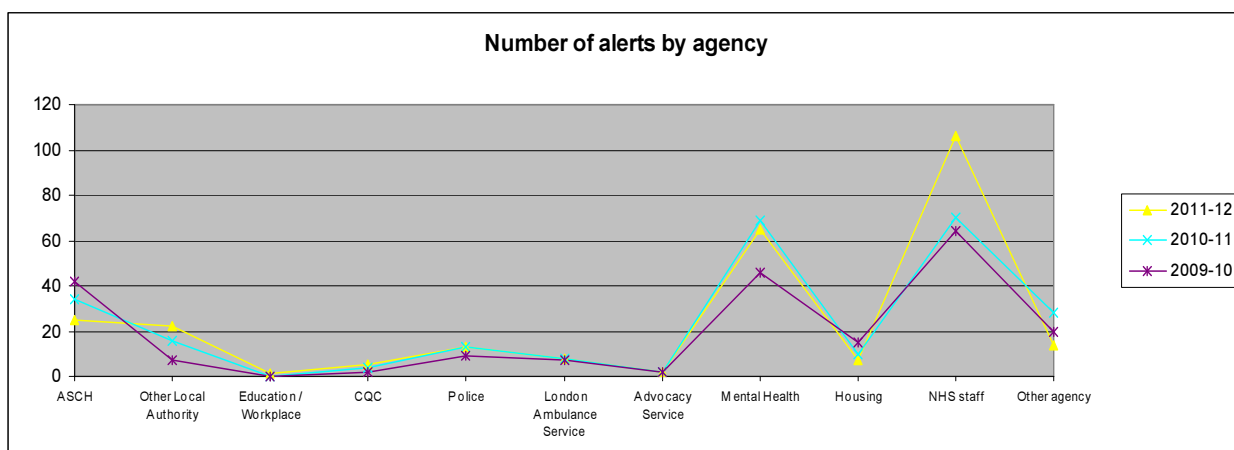
Since April 2012 NHS Barnet has sat within North Central London health commissioning cluster. NHS Barnet commission community health services from Central London Community Healthcare, acute services from Barnet Hospital and Royal Free Hospital, and mental health services from Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust. Barnet are also lead commissioners for the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, Stanmore. By April 2013 current NHS responsibility for children's and adults safeguarding will be handed over to the Clinical Commissioning Groups under new health strategic arrangements. The role of the NHS commissioning board in monitoring the safeguarding aspect of Clinical Commissioning Groups will be made clearer nationally within the forthcoming months.

The following mechanisms are in place to assure NHS Barnet that its providers have arrangements in place to safeguard children under Section 11 Children Act 2004:

- each health organisation provides a programme of safeguarding children training for their staff in addition to the multi-agency programme delivered by the Local Authority
- bespoke training is provided for independent health contractors with support from colleagues in the Metropolitan Police and Barnet social care services as required
- the Care Quality Commission requires each health provider organisation to provide assurance in a number of domains for children
- acute healthcare providers and Barnet Walk in Centres now receive lists of children subject to child protection plans electronically. Staff within these units have worked with London Borough of Barnet safeguarding teams to make adaptations to their systems to ensure that vulnerable children are identified

- health organisations across Barnet have given specific focus to ensure that staff are aware of the impact of domestic violence has on children
- a member of the team within Central London Community Hub represents health organisations at the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference in Barnet and feeds back information to health staff following this meeting
- to improve the emotional well-being of Barnet children the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Strategy is being updated and the service redesigned

Sources of referrals for adult safeguarding alerts in Barnet highlight the involvement of health providers in the safeguarding agenda. In 2011-12 the largest increase was in alerts from NHS staff, as demonstrated in the graph below. Part of this increase may be accounted for by the NHS requirement for all grade 3-4 pressure ulcers to be reported into safeguarding procedures. Grade 3-4 pressure ulcers were reported as a possible indicator of neglect in 61 cases (11%), 38 of these occurred in a care home setting, mainly nursing care. Although it is positive that these are being reported, the Adult Safeguarding Board has identified it as a growing problem and has set up a working group to address the issues. North Central London are also addressing this through a Quality, Innovation, Productivity and Prevention (QIPP) programme in 2012, and the Health and Wellbeing Board have been invited to discuss this further.



9.3 Listening to the views of children, young people and adult service users

9.3.1 Barnet is a customer centred Council which is committed to putting the customer at the centre of everything we do and listening to their views. During 2011/12, key feedback has been given by both children and adults about issues relating to safeguarding.

9.3.2 The views of children and young people

Barnet Young People's Safeguarding Consultation 2011, undertaken by Barnet Youth Shield, provides useful feedback on the views of over 400 children and young people relating to a range of safeguarding topics. Some of the key findings reported to Barnet Safeguarding Children Board were:

- domestic violence exists in teenage relationships, and that awareness needs to be raised among young people about what a healthy relationship is
- there is significant peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol. Young people need to be educated on the effects and outcomes, and to have access to a

range of services to get advice, socialise together and keep themselves positively engaged

- many disabled young people are not experienced in travelling independently or being out on their own, and over a quarter of a disability focus group consulted said they had been victims of hate crime
- awareness and support around bullying and being vulnerable to exploitation is necessary to develop skills that would be beneficial throughout adulthood
- many young people were aware of another young person who has a mental health difficulty, but only just over half knew where to go for help or support, saying that there is a need for more education and access to resources

9.3.3 The views of adult service users

The national adult social care user survey 2011 provides an insight into how safe Barnet adults feel: 92% of Barnet responders to the national survey said that they always or mostly felt safe (90% was the London average). 8% did not feel adequately safe or safe at all. The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Service User Forum meets quarterly to scrutinise the practice and policy of the Council and partner agencies. It consists of wide representation from different community groups such as the 55+ forum and Barnet Voice for Mental Health. This year the forum has:

- scrutinised reports from the Royal Free Hospital and Learning Disability Services
- received presentations about advocacy in care homes, and about financial abuse
- developed its own mission statement
- produced an accessible booklet to inform and support adults on what happens after abuse is reported

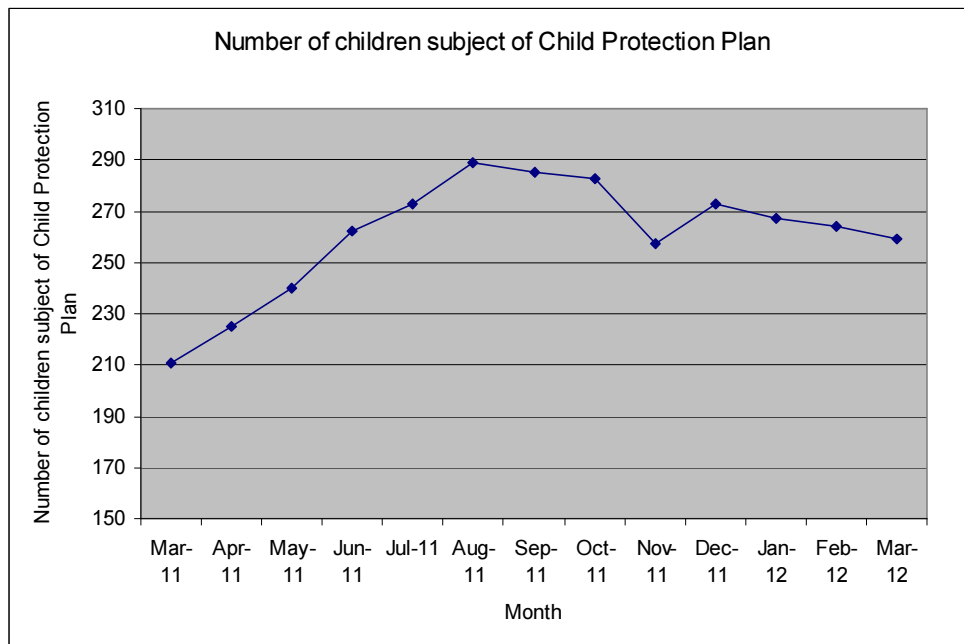
9.4 **Trends and issues**

9.4.1 During 2011/12 several trends and potential issues have been identified in relation to safeguarding, which have required further analysis.

Children's Service

9.4.2 Barnet has followed a national trend, seeing a rise in the number of children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan. The number of children subject to a child protection plan in Barnet has risen from 145 in 2006/07 to 211 in March 2011 and to 259⁴ in March 2012. This must be seen in the context of Barnet's increasing under 18 population and the number of Child Protection Plans per 10,000 of the under 18 population. As at March 2011 26.7 per 10,000 of Barnet's under 18 population were subject to a Child Protection Plan compared with 38.3 for London and 38.3 for England. In addition to increases in population, strengthened knowledge and understanding across the population and the workforce about safeguarding children will have contributed to the increase being seen nationally.

⁴ Provisional

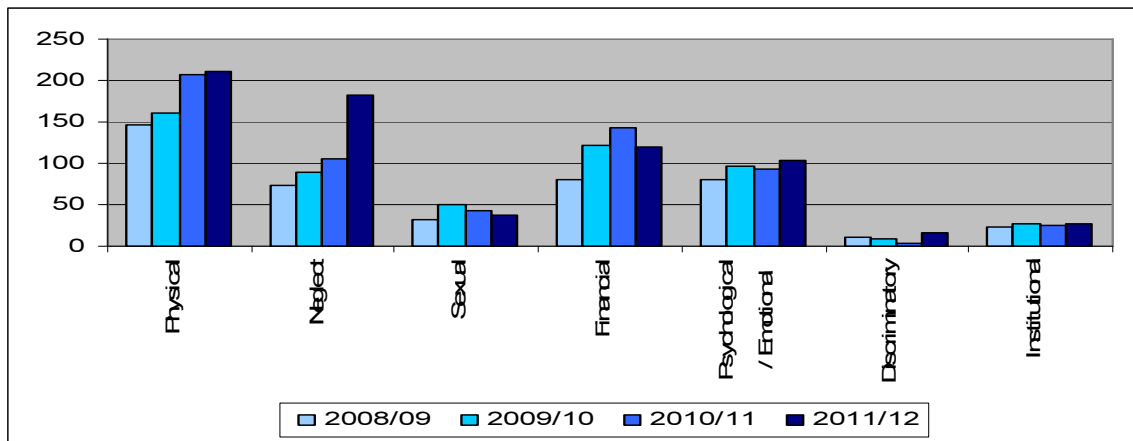


9.4.3 In Barnet there was particular concern during the year about the rising percentage of children subject to a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time. High levels of subsequent child protection plans could suggest that the professionals responsible for the child's welfare are not intervening effectively either to bring about lasting change or to make alternative plans for the child's long term care. At March 2011, the cumulative percentage of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time in 2010/11 was 18% (37 children). At March 2012, the same indicator was 13.78% (35 children). The percentage measure fluctuated during the year, in part due to the small cohort of children, and also due to the changing number of children subject of a child protection plan, which is the measure's denominator. The following actions have been taken to reduce the number of subsequent child protection plans:

- strengthening support when children cease to be subject of a child protection plan
- carrying out the style of audits recommended by Professor Eileen Munro (see 9.5.2) to draw out organisational issues and other key themes to improve practice
- a newly developed Protection Panel now meets on a monthly basis to examine the findings of case audits in detail and make recommendations both in terms of thematic organisational issues that emerge

Adults Services

9.4.4 This year has seen a slight increase in the number of adult safeguarding alerts concerning physical abuse, institutional abuse and psychological abuse, and the numbers of alerts concerning sexual and financial abuse have dropped slightly, as demonstrated in the graph below. There has been a significant increase in the numbers of alerts involving neglect, with numbers increasing by over 70%. This includes allegations where neglect was reported along-side other types of abuse. Physical abuse remains the most prevalent type of alert.



Health Services

9.4.5 Health Services have identified a key issue around the capacity of health visitors and are seeking to ensure there is sufficient capacity for essential health promotion and early intervention work. This was also identified by the Care Quality Commission Inspection in January 2012 and a recommendation was made for the capacity of health visitors and school nurses to be reviewed. North Central London has developed a compliance monitoring matrix, part of which reports health visiting capacity, to be reported quarterly. The introduction of the Family Nurse Partnership programme, a preventative programme for first time mothers offering intensive and structured home visiting from early pregnancy until the child is two, will also provide increased capacity for health visiting services.

Drugs and alcohol

9.4.6 Substance misuse covers both drugs and alcohol. Rates of substance misuse in Barnet are below national levels. An adult substance misuse needs assessment has identified key drug and alcohol trends in Barnet:

- the rate of Opiate and Crack Users engaging in support provision is currently 56%; regionally this is 69% and nationally it is 68%. Further work is needed to increase this rate
- the number of treatment completions amongst the Crack using client group are significantly lower than for other substances. A review of service provision has been recommended to ensure effective engagement and movement through the treatment system
- a low percentage of parents are in treatment in Barnet when compared against regional and national percentages. A whole family approach needs to be adopted to ensure effective treatment and appropriate safeguarding

9.4.7 A substance misuse strategy is currently in development to address these key trends, to ensure provision of and access to effective treatment services. The strategy seeks to support the transition to Public Health in Barnet, ensuring that commissioning arrangements are in line with changing structures. It will also develop the relationship with primary care and will work with acute care providers to reduce alcohol related hospital admissions.

Community Safety

9.4.8 Despite a decrease in the number of reports over the past year, rowdy or inconsiderate behaviour still makes up the majority of anti-social behaviour

reports. Over the past year, Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams worked on 392 cases where anti-social behaviour reports were not one off incidents. 26 vulnerable people were identified within these cases and were referred to appropriate agencies for support. A total of 376 hate incidents or hate crime incidents were recorded by the Community Safety Team at Colindale Police Station. A further 34 cases were reported via the 3rd party reporting sites. Investigation by the Priority Intervention Team resulted in 11 of these 34 cases identifying vulnerable people who were subsequently referred to appropriate agencies for support.

9.5 Key Developments

9.5.1 Growing population

Barnet's population has been growing consistently over the last ten years and is expected to increase by a further 5.5% (19,400) by 2016. Significant growth is projected in the under 18 population, and proportionally high growth in the over 85s. Over the next five years, there will be 3,250 (7.4%) more residents aged over 65 and 783 (11.3%) more residents aged over 85. Both of these increases are above the average growth rate of 5.5%. This will continue to pose challenges; even if levels of safeguarding and social care activity remain constant there will be an increased need for services due to an overall increase in the population.

9.5.2 Munro Review

Professor Munro published her final report of the review of the child protection system in May 2011. It focussed on strengthening the social work profession, and strengthening officer support and autonomy; enabling well-informed judgements to be made, based on up-to-date evidence in the best interests of children. The Munro Review also highlighted the importance of Local Safeguarding Children Boards in ensuring services are working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The final report made recommendations, of which the most pertinent in the context of this report are:

- the Local Safeguarding Children Board should submit an annual report to the Chief Executive, Leader, Police Commissioner and Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board
- statutory guidance should be amended to focus on meeting local need and the effectiveness of multi agency training
- the scope of the roles of Director of Children's Service and Lead Member for Children should not be expanded outside of Children's Services
- Local Authorities and partners should start an ongoing process to review and redesign the way in which child and family social work is delivered
- Local Authorities should designate a Principal Child and Family Social Worker who is still actively involved in frontline practice

The Council has responded to these recommendations; it already meets the arrangements for the Local Safeguarding Children Board submitting an annual report; a broad multi-agency training programme is already in place; the Council's reorganisation of the Senior Officer and Council structures takes into account the new statutory guidance on the role and status of the Director of Children's Service; and Barnet are currently creating a post for a Principal Child and Family Social Worker. The Council will continue to develop its

services and strengthen its safeguarding functions in line with these recommendations.

9.5.3 Early intervention and prevention

There is a key commitment to early intervention and prevention across the Council and partners. The key developments in 2011/12 are as follows.

To address issues arising from an increasing young population and a sustained rise in the numbers being referred to Children's Service, additional investment has been made in early intervention and prevention services to improve the identification of those at risk and work with families to address problems before they escalate. Central to early intervention and prevention services is the use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), which has had 398 new completions in Barnet in the 12 months to March 2012. For the 2012/13 year, a target is in place for the completion of 770 new CAFs, to ensure that more families receive support at an earlier stage.

Barnet's Family Focus work is starting to show results, as highlighted in the findings of the January 2012 Ofsted inspection of safeguarding and looked after children. Family Focus work provides early interventions to build families' resilience; concentrating on supporting families to improve parenting skills and relationships within the family. As part of the Troubled Families initiative, Intensive Family Focus work is supporting troubled families with multiple, complex problems. The pilot cohort of 18 families in 2011 have seen many positive outcomes relating to safeguarding, including: 12 children ceased to be subject of a child protection plan, a significant reduction in offending or anti-social behaviour for 13 families, and reduced adults substance misuse and re-engagement with drugs and alcohol treatment services in 7 families.

A multi-agency approach is also being taken to the provision of domestic violence support which, for example, has involved the Domestic Violence coordinator attending GP safeguarding training. The Safer Families Project is an early intervention project based in the community which is identifying children and families where domestic abuse and conflict is a feature of family life and is providing early intervention support to prevent escalation to social care. Additionally, the Family Nurse Partnership programme is starting to help young parents to look after their children better, and to support the health and wellbeing of the parents themselves.

9.6 **Supporting a learning culture**

9.6.1 Ofsted and Care Quality Commission

Barnet's provision of services for safeguarding and looked after children were inspected by Ofsted in January 2012, alongside the inspection of health provision by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The ten-day inspection involved extensive scrutiny of case files, analysis of performance information, and over 70 focus groups and interviews.

The outcomes of the both the Ofsted and CQC elements of the inspection were that safeguarding services were good overall and that the outcomes for looked after children were good overall. As at 24 February 2012, of the 97 Local Authorities for whom such an inspection has been undertaken (excluding those who had been re-inspected) in relation to the overall

safeguarding judgement 2 were rated as 'outstanding', 31 as 'good', 47 as 'satisfactory' and 17 as 'inadequate'. For the looked after children judgement, 0 were rated as 'outstanding', 50 as 'good', 44 as 'satisfactory' and 3 as 'inadequate'.

Barnet was judged to be good on 20 out of the 22 assessment criteria. Two criteria, quality of provision for safeguarding and quality of provision for looked after children, were judged to be 'adequate'. 12 recommendations were made by Ofsted and five made by the CQC as a result of the inspection. These included:

- continue to increase the consistent quality of social care assessments and supervision and incorporate the use of research into practice and assessment
- review the services provided through housing for victims of domestic abuse
- ensure clear protocols around child protection decision-making are fully embedded
- continue to work with schools to provide safeguarding advice and ensure safeguarding procedures are clear and understood
- strengthen the case audit and complaints systems and reporting mechanisms and use this to continually improve the quality of practice
- ensure that all looked after children and young people are made aware of the existence of the Pledge for Children in Care and use this to continue to provide good quality care and support
- develop and embed into practice a permanency planning policy for looked after children to secure long term, stable placements
- appoint a designated doctor for looked after children and ensure there is sufficient health capacity to safeguard children

The implementation of these recommendations are being closely scrutinised by senior officers and across the multi-agency partnership. There has been a focus on developing the wider learning from the inspection, particularly to help further raise the quality of provision for safeguarding and for looked after children. The Children's Service has been scrutinising this with partners and is developing an integrated service improvement plan to focus on continually raising the quality of provision, with a sustained emphasis on the experience of the child receiving services.

The Ofsted and CQC inspection schedule changed in April 2012, see 9.7.3, to focus on the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements for identifying children who are suffering, or likely to suffer, harm; for the provision of early help; and in protecting these children if the risk remains or intensifies. It is unlikely that Barnet will be inspected under this framework as it has recently been inspected and a new multi-inspectorate framework (Ofsted, CQC and HMIP) for the inspection of child protection services is expected to be in place during 2013/14. This will be a harder test for the partnership and one we will be preparing for across all partners represented on the Children's Trust Board.

9.6.2 Domestic Violence Homicide Review

A Domestic Violence Homicide Review was undertaken last year as a result of the unlawful killing of a mother of a young child by her partner. For the lessons of the review to be learned as widely and thoroughly as possible, a series of multi-agency workshops are being held by Barnet Safeguarding

Children Board in May-July 2012. Some of the key learning points from the Domestic Violence Homicide Review focussed on:

- working with personality disorder
- ensuring all health providers have a Domestic Violence policy which is consistent with Barnet and Pan-London Safeguarding Adults Policies and ensuring that protocols are followed health professionals
- ensuring Adult Services, including health services, have a clear Service Level Agreement with domestic violence services to outline clear referral pathways and a protocol for risk management
- ensuring appropriate referrals are made by drug and alcohol services, mental health services and adults safeguarding services
- ensuring that the Local Authority and mental health services for parents are aware of safeguarding and vice versa
- developing safeguarding adults training for police officers to support decision making about who is an 'adult at risk'

9.6.3 Adults Serious Case Review

The Safeguarding Adults Board have received regular reports on the progress of the action plan developed as a result of a serious case review following the death of a young man with learning disabilities and complex health needs.

The action plan has seen work completed in the following areas:

- a review of contracts for commissioned services including the terms and conditions, service specification and the support plan. This included the development of a reportable incidents stipulation
- the development of suspension policy where providers fail to meet requirements
- arrangements for sharing intelligence about poor performing services
- a procedure to ensure that local health services are available to people placed outside of the Barnet area
- training for key staff in assessment and support planning for people with learning disabilities and complex health needs
- a protocol to prioritise reviews based on complexity and risk

A learning event was held in September 2011, in conjunction with Enfield Safeguarding Adults Board. Over 160 professionals and providers of care met to reflect on the findings of the review and what we need to do to prevent such a tragic accident happening again. Commissioners and supply management came together with health and social work professionals from the Learning Disability Service to focus on action planning for improvements. This was followed by the learning disability providers from the two boroughs considering issues of safer recruitment, risk assessment and partnership working.

9.6.4 Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) Review

Barnet sought to review a case following the murder of a mother in a household where, although not present at the time, a vulnerable small child normally resided. The Barnet SCIE Review was commissioned by Barnet Safeguarding Children Board with the final report accepted in October 2011. As recommended by the Munro Review, a systems approach was taken; the multi-agency network worked together to learn about both the SCIE model, and what the case told us about the systems affecting safeguarding work in Barnet. Health agencies were represented in both the Review team and the case team and are in the process of ensuring that themes learned are

disseminated to all staff. The key themes emerging from the SCIE Review were:

- the importance of regular reflective supervision, support and challenge
- the necessity for multi-agency audits and for groups of cases to be discussed to identify themes
- the importance of multi-agency working, consistent attendance of key agencies at child protection conferences and continuing a multi-agency network after the ending of a child protection plan
- a need to explore how often Core Assessments are revised and to look at how risk factors are identified and re-assessments are triggered
- resource implications of record keeping and a need to understand the type of information which is missing from records
- the message that “safeguarding is everybody’s business” needs to become a more integral part of practice in all agencies
- multi-agency working with adults who have a personality disorder needs to be strengthened

9.6.5 Serious health incidents

Two child deaths in 2011 resulted in referrals to both the SCR sub-committee of the LSCB and also the Child Death Overview Panel. Both child deaths had similarities in that the young people involved had attended independent schools out of borough and were in receipt of private mental health services. Reviews into the child deaths were held to identify any gaps in service or factors which may have changed the outcome for these young people. The actions from these reviews were that:

- oversight of private healthcare provision is a national issue, it is the role of the Child Death Overview panel is to ensure this is identified regionally and nationally
- the Child Death Overview Panel nationally will look at trends nationally for comparison
- for Barnet the two child deaths highlighted how essential it is that full information is passed from NHS provision to Independent and private healthcare and vice versa. Safeguarding training for Independent Contractors including primary care contractors now highlights this issue
- NHS Barnet has representation from two independent providers of care at their Safeguarding Children Advisory group. Contacts with local boroughs are being made to ensure they are supporting Independent Providers within their catchment area
- a joint flow chart will be developed to ensure that in the event of a child death consistent actions are taken by the multi-agency group, such as support to the family and school

9.7 **Future challenges and opportunities**

9.7.1 Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) co-locate professionals and are designed to give better decisions and outcomes for vulnerable people, by improving the sharing and integration of information. They provide a high level of knowledge and analysis on information at the point of referral and promote informed, risk based decision-making to safeguard vulnerable people. The development of a MASH is currently underway in Barnet. The Domestic

Violence Homicide Review highlighted the importance of developing the MASH and emphasised the need for this work to be expedited.

9.7.2 Continued integration with health

Public Health is moving to come under the Local Authority and the Health and Wellbeing Board in Barnet. The Health and Wellbeing Board has been established to provide coordination and integration for the whole of health and care services. Moving forward there will be continuing changes to health structures with the development of the Clinical Commissioning Group. There will be continuing work needed to ensure the safeguarding agenda is embedded into new arrangements. Health representation on both the Safeguarding Children Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board, in particular the GP representatives on both Boards, will become increasingly important. Over the coming year, health is seeking to continue to work with designated safeguarding professionals within the commissioning clusters, to develop the strategic work programme for safeguarding children across North Central London. The Health and Wellbeing Board will need to maintain and strengthen its work to continue to strengthen the multi-agency safeguarding agenda.

9.7.3 New Children's Service inspection Framework

The Munro Review has informed the development of a new inspection framework, from April 2012, for Local Authority arrangements for the protection of children which focuses on:

- early help and intervention
- the child's journey from needing help to receiving help
- the child's voice through this journey
- the number professionals involved in the life of the family and the impact of changes of professionals
- the effectiveness of the services and the impact on the child
- identifying cases of good practice is an effective way to better understand the mechanisms underpinning effective help

It is unlikely that all local authorities will be inspected under this framework as a multi-inspectorate framework for the inspection of child protection services will be in place from 2013/14. As part of service improvement, Barnet is strengthening its provision of services in line with the recommendations of the Munro Review and findings from the Ofsted inspection of safeguarding and looked after children.

9.7.4 Demographic and budgetary pressures

Demographic pressures for the Children's Service and Adult Social Services have been recognised in the Medium Term Financial Strategy (see 6.2 and 6.3). However, Barnet's growing population, as highlighted at 9.5.1, will continue to pose challenges, particularly in the context of reduced budgets.

9.7.5 New Council Structure

Barnet is redesigning the way it provides Council services, with services re-aligned into commissioning, assurance and delivery units. This will require new ways of working and we need to ensure that challenge and support in relation to safeguarding continues to be strengthened in these new structures.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

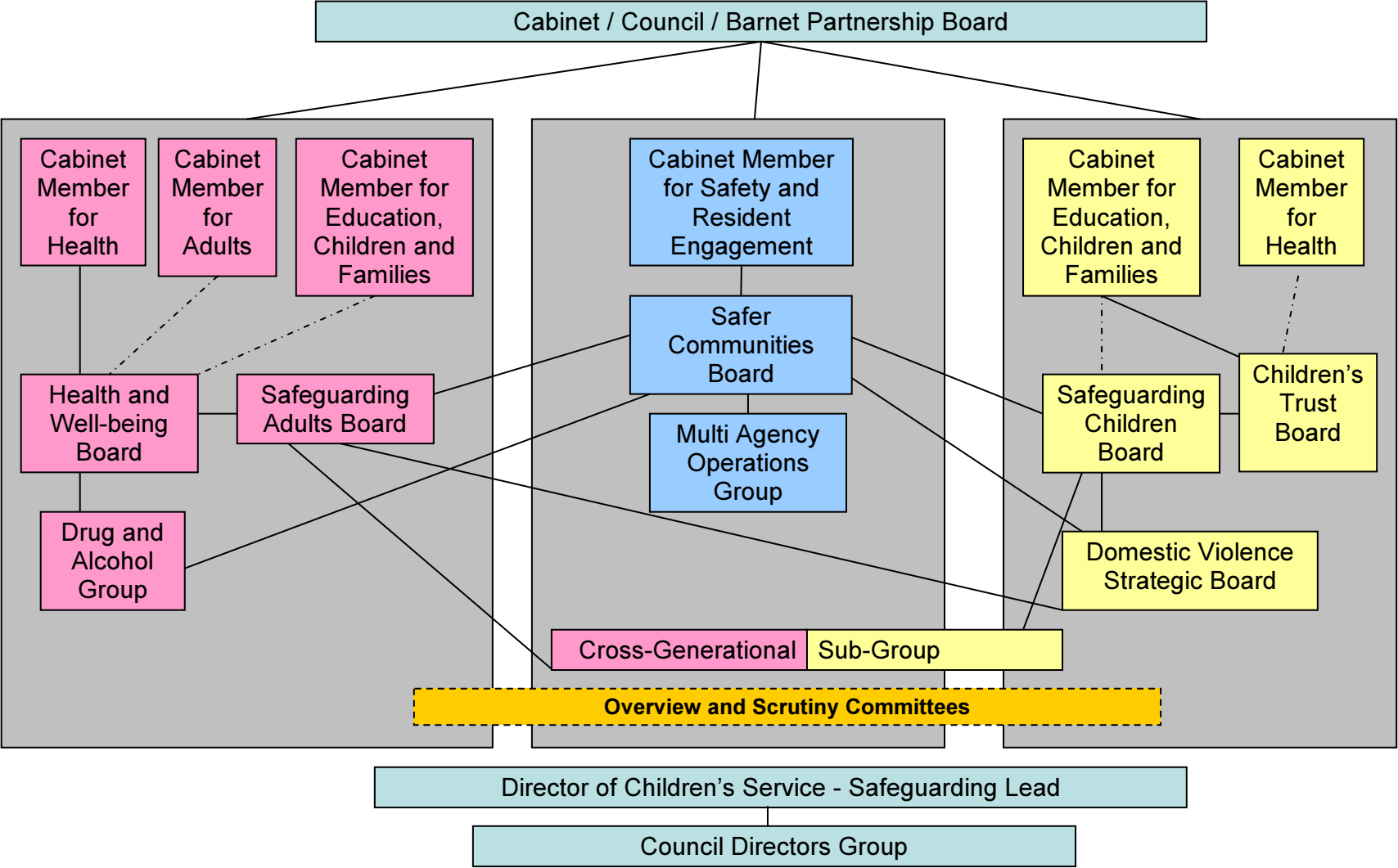
Department for Education. May 2011. *The Munro Review of Child Protection: Final Report*

Ofsted. April 2012. *Framework for the inspection of Local Authority arrangements for the protection of children*

Ofsted and CQC. February 2012. *Inspection of safeguarding and looked after children services: London Borough of Barnet*

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| Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials) | JH |
| Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials) | SS |

APPENDIX 1: The Governance of Safeguarding in Barnet



APPENDIX 2: Further information on the key safeguarding governance structures in Barnet

Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee provides Member scrutiny of the Council and its partners in the discharge of statutory duties in relation to safeguarding. Over the past year, reports to the Safeguarding Overview and Scrutiny Committee have included the implications of the Munro review and the implementation of recommendations, Adult Services workforce approach to safeguarding and proposals for strengthening the partnership with other statutory organisations, and a plan to address recommendations from the Ofsted Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children.

The **Barnet Partnership Board** meets in public and is an overarching partnership board that takes an overview of the cross-cutting challenges facing the Borough. The Council agreed new arrangements for the Board in February 2012.

The **Safer Communities Partnership Board** recognises safeguarding as a priority and is the inter-agency mechanism in Barnet to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour and reoffending, and to promote social cohesion. Reports from the Children's and Adults' safeguarding boards are a standing item on the Safer Communities Partnership Board. The Safeguarding Adults Manager is also now a member of the Safer Communities Partnership Board.

The **Barnet Children's Trust Board** provides inter-agency governance to ensure that partners in Barnet are working together effectively, to improve the wellbeing of children and young people. Responsibilities cover the needs of all children and young people in Barnet under the age of 19 as well as young people under who are leaving care, up to the age of 21 or 25 (depending on whether they are in education) and young people who have disabilities and/or learning difficulties, up to the age of 25.

The **Health and Wellbeing Board** provides the function of joining up commissioning of local NHS services, social care and health improvement at a strategic level and support integration across health, adult social care and children's services.

Barnet Safeguarding Children Board is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. There are currently 4 sub groups in addition to the Standing Serious Case Review (SCR) Panel and the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP). These are;

- Performance and Quality Assurance Sub Group
- Training and Development Sub Group
- Professional Advisory Sub Group
- Cross-Generational Sub Group

Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board co-ordinates activity between agencies, and monitors and audits progress in safeguarding vulnerable adults. Membership has been reviewed and changes have been made to extend membership to include the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator, a GP representative, and London Probation Service. A representative from the London Ambulance Service was secured earlier in the year. Barnet

Safeguarding Children Board continues to be represented at Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safeguarding Adults Manager attends the Barnet Safeguarding Children Board to promote links at a strategic level.

AGENDA ITEM 7

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 th July 2012 |
| Subject | Creation of a borough wide Designated Public Place Order |
| Report of | Cabinet Member for Safety and Resident Engagement |
| Summary | This report seeks approval to implement a borough wide Designated Public Place Order to control drinking in public places associated with crime, disorder and nuisance |

| | |
|---|---|
| Officer Contributors | Paul Lamb, Community Protection Group Manager |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | N/A |
| Function of | Cabinet |
| Enclosures | None |
| Contact for Further Information: | Paul Lamb, 020 8359 7491 |

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That Cabinet approves the implementation of a borough wide Designated Public Place Order (DPPO) and authorises a report to Council to create the Order under seal.

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet 29 September 2003, decision item 12, 'Declaration of Alcohol Free Zones'.
- 2.2 Cabinet 12 April 2010, Controlled Drinking Zone for Childs Hill, approval to create a Designated Public Place Order covering the environs of Cricklewood Town Centre.
- 2.3 Council 17 May 2010, Designated Public Place Order – Controlled Drinking Zone for Childs Hill Ward, ratification of Cabinet recommendation to create an order.
- 2.4 Delegated Powers Report 1670, 21st May 2012, approval to commence consultation with regard to the creation of a borough wide Designated Public Place Order.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Corporate Plan 2011 – 13 states the following objective within the priority of 'A successful London suburb';
- Work with all strategic partners (particularly the Police) to ensure Barnet is a safe place
- The implementation of a DPPO supports the delivery of this objective.

- 3.2 The Safer Communities Strategy 2012 – 2013 has three core priorities;
- Property crime
 - Anti social behaviour
 - Violent crime

The strategy sets out five core approaches to tackling the above priorities which include;

- Broader, cost effective early intervention to prevent crime happening in the first place or to change behaviour and divert potential offenders
- Focusing our joint resources on the places where the most harmful offending takes place
- Reduce the fear of crime through building public confidence and reassurance

The implementation of a DPPO will assist with tackling the above priorities, giving the Police powers to tackle anti social behaviour and crime associated with the consumption of alcohol, which is of concern to residents, primarily within our town centres. In addition to protecting the community, ensuring appropriate support pathways are in place will provide alternatives for individuals who harm themselves by the consumption of alcohol.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Limitations on Police resources may impact upon their ability to enforce a borough wide zone, especially when other issues may receive higher priority. This may have a negative impact upon public perception. In addition any enforcement must be proportional. The effectiveness of any zone therefore needs to be monitored, including the operational regulatory response.
- 4.2 The Council must be satisfied that the creation of a borough wide zone is a proportionate response to the problem(s) faced. The level of crime, disorder and nuisance associated with the consumption of alcohol is therefore presented in this report for consideration.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 Approximately half of the identified street drinking population in Barnet are White British or Irish, aged on average between 40 – 55 years old and predominantly male. Nearly all of these individuals have previously been involved with drug and alcohol services but few remain in treatment, with the majority dropping out soon after starting. This group can be described as having chronic alcohol issues. The other half of the population is Eastern European, predominantly male and aged on average between 24 – 40 years of age. Approximately a third of the street drinking population has no fixed abode. Enforcement will be complemented with relevant services such as drug and alcohol treatment and reconnection services to support longer term rehabilitation and recovery.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 The introduction of a borough wide DPPO will be approximately £12,500. This sum will cover publication of notices, signage and other administrative costs. Expenditure will be met from within the existing Community Safety budget.
- 6.2 The Police and Police Community Support Officers will be responsible for regulating the proposed borough wide Order.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 The introduction of a borough wide DPPO will be in accordance with the Local Authorities (Alcohol Consumption in Designated Public Places) Regulations 2007, conferred by S.13 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 and published Home Office guidance.
- 7.2 The creation of a DPPO should be a proportionate response to the identified problem. Powers conferred by the Order must be used proportionally. For example, an Order would give a Police Officer the discretion to require an individual to stop drinking anywhere within a designated public place. However, these powers are not intended to disrupt peaceful activities, such as a family enjoying a picnic in a park with a glass of wine.

7.3 An Equalities Impact Assessment will need to be conducted in order to consider the impact of the proposed borough wide DPPO.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (Relevant section from the Constitution, Key/Non-Key Decision)

8.1 Constitution Part 3, Responsibility for Functions, Section 3 – Responsibility for Executive Functions, ‘policy formulation and implementation in relation to community safety’.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 Powers to designate public places

9.1.1 On 1st September 2001, sections 12-16 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 came into force. The provisions replaced local bye-laws and enable local authorities to designate places where restrictions on public drinking apply. These powers were introduced to explicitly tackle crime, disorder and nuisance associated with the consumption of alcohol in a public place. Local authorities must be satisfied that nuisance to members of the public, or a section of the public, or disorder has been associated with the consumption of intoxicating liquor in an area proposed to be designated before it creates an Order.

9.1.2 Once designated a Police Officer or accredited person, being a Police Community Support Officer, has the power to require an individual within the area not to consume anything which the officer believes to be intoxicating liquor. An authorised officer can also require a person to surrender anything in their possession which is, or the officer believes to be, intoxicating liquor or a container for such liquor. If a person fails to comply then they commit an offence and are liable on summary conviction to a fine up to £500. A Police Officer also has the power of arrest. A person who has committed an offence can be issued a Penalty Notice for Disorder.

9.1.3 There are four existing Designated Public Places within Barnet, introduced to tackle anti social behaviour and crime associated with discrete street drinking populations and nuisance related to the night time economy. They are:

- North Finchley Town Centre, introduced January 2004
- Finchley Town Centre, introduced January 2004
- Hendon Town Centre, introduced January 2004
- Cricklewood Town Centre, introduced May 2010

9.1.4 Requests have been received from local ward Councillors, Safer Neighbourhood Teams and members of the community for further Designated Public Places to be created to tackle street drinking for;

- Edgware Town Centre and environs
- Golders Green Town Centre and environs
- West Hendon Town Centre and environs
- Burnt Oak Town Centre and environs

An extension to the existing North Finchley zone has also been requested due to the displacement of street drinkers to surrounding residential areas.

9.1.5 In view of the extent of existing areas and those proposed for

designation, the Police have requested that a borough wide Order is considered as displacement will occur. The Police have stated that displacement is already evident from existing zones to surrounding areas. For example, in North Finchley street drinkers have dispersed to neighbouring residential roads and since the zone covering Cricklewood was implemented in 2010, street drinkers have reportedly dispersed to Golders Green and West Hendon. When other local authorities have extended their existing discrete zones to borough wide coverage, such as Ealing, they too have cited displacement as one of the reasons why a borough wide order is required.

9.1.6 The Police have further stated that they believe there has been displacement into the London Borough of Barnet subsequent to the neighbouring boroughs of Camden, Brent and Harrow implementing borough wide Order's within their administrative areas (Enfield and Haringey have extensive coverage of Designated Public Places but not borough wide). In addition, the Police have stated that discrete areas have proved difficult to regulate because although their extent is understood by Safer Neighbourhood Teams, all other Police response teams do not understand. There would be no confusion if there was a borough wide designation.

9.1.7 Data related to crime, disorder and nuisance associated with the consumption of alcohol across Barnet has been reviewed and the following is presented to support the creation of a borough wide Order;

9.2 Crime, Disorder and Nuisance:

9.2.1 Anti Social Behaviour incidents, including those related to alcohol consumption, are classified by the Police as rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour. Levels of rowdy and inconsiderate behaviour have increased steadily from 7027 incidents in 2008/09, to 9060 incidents in 2010/11, representing a 28.9% increase.

9.2.2 Two years of crime data, between January 2010 – December 2011, has been reviewed to identify crime associated with alcohol and street drinking. 4,567 crime reports were identified, which represents 10% of all reported crime to the Police in that period. Care should be taken interpreting this data as it relies upon Police Officers flagging alcohol as a factor in crime types, hence there may be a level of under reporting.

9.2.3 London Ambulance data related to call outs associated to alcohol incidents was interrogated for the period January 2009 – December 2011. Over that period there has been a 17% increase in the number of incidents attended.

9.2.4 The Council's Priority Intervention Team, Town Keepers, CCTV service and Police Safer Neighbourhood teams were asked to conduct environmental audits to identify street drinking issues across Barnet. The table below sets out issues identified:

| Ward | Locations | Profile |
|-------------|--|--|
| Childs Hill | Cricklewood Broadway, Golders Green Station, Golders Way, Golders Green Crescent | Group of 5 in Cricklewood <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence • Urination and defecation |

| | | |
|---------------------|---|--|
| | (reported as some displacement from Cricklewood zone and from Brent within Cricklewood) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intimidation • Littering <p>Group up to 15 in vicinity of Golders Green Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intimidation • Begging • Littering • Urination |
| Golders Green | Boundary with Childs Hill ward along Golders Green road and environs (reported as some displacement from Cricklewood zone) | Group of 15 as above moving between ward boundaries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As above |
| West Hendon | The Broadway and surrounding roads | Group of 10 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft • Violence • Intimidation • Urination • Littering |
| West Finchley | Tally Ho Corner and Ballards Lane (displacement reported to surrounding roads) | Group of 8 historically <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urination • Littering • Intimidation |
| Woodhouse | Boundary with West Finchley and related to attendance at Homeless Action in Barnet | As above |
| Finchley Church End | Vicinity of TESCO, Hendon Lane, Victoria Park and Station Approach | Group of 7 historically Another group of up to 10 street drinkers is emerging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intimidation • Littering • Urination • Drugs |
| Edgware | Station Road, Rectory Lane, Herons Gate and Manns Road (reported as some displacement from Harrow) | Group of 16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intimidation • Begging • Sleeping rough • Violence • Urination and defecation • Littering • Arson |
| Burnt Oak | Watling Avenue, The Broadway, Watling Park, Silkstream Park, Tube Station and stairwells (reported as some displacement from Harrow) | Group of 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urination / defecation • Intimidation • Begging • Littering • Violence • Abusive language |
| High Barnet | Around the Church, rear of Spires | Group up to 5 |

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | Shopping Centre (reported as displacement from West Finchley area) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urination • Intimidation |
|--|--|---|

It is estimated that there is a street drinking population of 84 individuals across Barnet. However, this is an approximation and subject to variation as the population is transient.

9.2.5 Although street drinking populations have been included in the table above within areas that have an existing DPPO, the relevant Safer Neighbourhood Teams for Finchley wards have reported a reduction in street drinking related issues over recent months as they have maintained an enforcement approach.

9.3 Perceptions of alcohol related issues

9.3.1 The residents perception survey 2011 identified that 19% of residents thought that people being drunk or rowdy in a public place was a big problem. Although sample sizes at a ward level were quite small further analysis of this result identified the following wards as having the highest level of concern:

- Woodhouse 28%
- Colindale 28%
- Hale 27%
- Burnt Oak 25%
- West Hendon 25%

9.3.2 In March 2011, LB Barnet’s Community Safety team conducted a crime survey. 50% of residents stated that people being drunk and rowdy in a public place made them feel unsafe in their local area. Furthermore, when residents were asked what priorities they would set for their local area, 50% stated that dealing with anti social behaviour and disorder would be their top priority. The charts below detail the results of the survey:

Chart 1: What makes you feel unsafe in your local area?



Chart 2: What are your top three priorities for improving safety in your area?



9.3.3 The Police conduct an Attitudes Survey which they compile quarterly. In

2011/12, 10% of respondents stated that people being drunk or rowdy in a public place was a big problem. This has remained unchanged from 2010/11 but does represent a 6% increase from 2009/10. When compared against the London average of 18%, Barnet compares favourably.

9.4 Effectiveness of Designated Public Places

9.4.1 The table below compares disorder levels within the existing DPPO areas from 2009/10 to 2010/11. Data cannot be reliably compared after this date because reporting categories have been changed by the Police:

| | 2009/10 | 2010/11 | % change |
|---------------------|---------|---------|-----------------|
| Hendon | 699 | 644 | 7.9% reduction |
| North Finchley | 753 | 635 | 15.7% reduction |
| Finchley Church End | 223 | 322 | 48.8% increase |
| Cricklewood | 896 | 1044 | 16.5% increase |

Disorder levels across the whole of Barnet during the same period increased by 5.75%. It should be noted that the Cricklewood zone was not operational until August 2010 so the impact of enforcement within the DPPO may not have filtered through.

9.4.2 Safer Neighbourhood Teams have reported a reduction of issues related to street drinkers within the North Finchley and Finchley zones over the last six months as they have been enforcing within them in response to community requests. Further, they report that sightings of street drinkers have greatly reduced. However, the West Finchley team have reported that some displacement has occurred to surrounding residential roads outside of the DPPO area whilst the Childs Hill team have reported that street drinkers within the Cricklewood area remain but at a reduced level.

9.4.3 No reports of crime or nuisance associated with street drinking were received from across agencies regarding the existing Hendon DPPO.

9.4.4 Evaluations conducted by other local authorities who have introduced DPPOs were reviewed. In Hammersmith and Fulham street drinking in problematic areas was reported as reducing by 62% and in Southwark street drinking was reported as reducing by 27%. In January 2011, Haringey reported a reduction in alcohol related calls of 36.7% but acknowledged that street drinking was still occurring and hence their zones should continue. Ealing reported in 2011 that street drinking related incidents had reduced by 45.57% following implementation of their controlled drinking zone and that public confidence had improved.

9.4.5 Where other authorities have introduced borough wide Orders, public support has been high. For example, 84% of respondents to consultation in the boroughs of Newham and Islington supported a borough wide zone, which were both subsequently introduced in 2011.

9.4.6 If a borough wide Order is created the application of it will be monitored to assess effectiveness in preventing and tackling nuisance and disorder associated with the consumption of alcohol and also to ensure that powers have been used proportionately.

9.5 DPPO Process

9.5.1 Before considering the creation of an Order, the authority is required to consult with:

- The Chief Officer of Police for the police area in which it is proposed
- The Chief Officer(s) of Police of any neighbouring boroughs which a proposed zone would border hence, Enfield, Brent, Camden, Haringey, Harrow and Hertsmere
- The licensee or certificate holder of any licensed premise or club which may be affected by the creation of a zone
- Any neighbouring local authority which a proposed zone would border, hence LB's of Enfield, Brent, Camden, Haringey, Harrow and Hertsmere

In addition all reasonable steps should be taken to consult with residents within any proposed area.

9.5.2 A notice was published in the local press on 7th June 2012 inviting representations within a minimum 28 day period, concerning the proposed designation order. The other parties stated in 9.5.1 above were also written to individually and a public on line web survey commenced. The representation period ended on 4th July 2012.

9.5.3 If the authority, after considering any representations, proceeds with creating an Order, it is required to publish a notice in a local newspaper identifying the place, the effect of the order and the operational date. Signs have to be erected informing members of the public that they are within a designated area.

9.5.3 It should be noted that the creation of an Order should not impact upon local licensed businesses situated within the area as the Order would not have effect upon such licensed premises or clubs. However, clients could risk regulation if they strayed beyond the legal curtilage of a licensed premise if they did not desist from drinking if asked to do so by a Police Officer or Police Community Support Officer.

9.6 Consultation response

9.6.1 Consultation commenced on the 7th June and closed on the 4th July. A total of 210 responses were received. 83.8% were in favour of the introduction of a borough wide DPPO and 10.9% were not. 5.3% of respondents did not know.

9.6.2 Barnet borough Police expressly supported the proposal stating that it will create a mechanism to 'support the drive to reduce alcohol related criminality' and provided a commitment 'to using the powers in a pragmatic and proportionate way based on an intelligence or evidenced case by case basis'.

9.6.3 No adverse comments were received from neighbouring local authorities or neighbouring borough Police commands.

9.6.4 Attached as Appendix 1 is a full set of consultation comments received. In summary those supporting the proposal believe it will be a useful tool to tackle nuisance related to street drinking and will make the community safer, whilst those not in favour cited the proposal as not being proportionate nor necessary.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Home Office Guidance on Designated Public Place Orders for Local Authorities, November 2009.

| | |
|--|--|
| Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials) | |
| Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials) | |

Appendix 1 – Comments received from consultation responses

I am aware of the ongoing problem in the area that I live in.

Too much anti social drinking in our streets. A complete ban is ideal.

I think that drinking should be limited to private homes/gardens and bars/pubs/restaurants.

I do not understand the need to drink whilst walking in the street

I believe there is still far too much public drunkenness in Cricklewood.

I live in Cricklewood where there is currently such an order in place. I hope that if a DPPO were made Borough-wide it would mean that the restrictions on street were enforced more rigorously. Problems with street drinking and associated

anti-social behaviour have improved since the restrictions were introduced but there are still too many occasions when the rules are not enforced.

In Barnet there is widespread street drinking. This is particularly evident to me in Cricklewood, when out walking with my children in broad daylight, we will invariably encounter people drinking beer on the street. Also, wine and spirits are regularly seen. Places where street drinking is visible include Cricklewood Lane (bus stop opposite Coop supermarket, B&Q grassy area), Cricklewood Broadway (outside the Travelodge, behind the Travelodge, outside

the bookmakers at the corner with Chicele Rd, in the playground on Kara Way. This is a bad thing because

1) it gives a very bad example to children

2) it is intimidating - I have had to turn away from the playground on Kara Way on several occasions due to the groups of men drinking beer and spirits

3) it drags our neighbourhood down and gives a very bad impression to visitors - this will of course have a knock on effect on business and house price growth

4) I imagine that it leads on to crime in terms of antisocial behaviour associated with public drunkenness

5) littering - cans of beer and empty alcohol bottles make the area look miserable and depressing.

Cricklewood Broadway is still full of street drinkers despite the Controlled Zone. This leads to the unpleasant side effects of rubbish, vomit and urination which we residents are forced to sidestep on a daily basis.

If Cricklewood is to have any chance of social improvement this element must be removed.

In the Cricklewood area there is a serious problem with street drinkers and the other two bordering councils have Designated Public Place Orders.

We are tired of complaining about street drinking and need some serious and immediate enforcement to stop it. Street drinkers are a problem in the Burnt Oak area and giving the SNT/Police more powers to discourage it would be a positive thing.

Drinking alcohol should only be allowed in licensed premises

The streets are not safe for me or my family to walk around

Unless I am misunderstanding, this would mean a blanket ban on alcohol in public in Barnet. I am middle aged and not really a drinker but there are issues:

1. If people are breaking the law, then they can be stopped anyway whether they are drinking or not.
2. People can just as easily get drunk inside then cause trouble.
3. Even I enjoy a glass of wine with a picnic on occasion - this is not troublesome.

Again, how can drinking in the street be a crime if no other crime is being committed? Blanket bans just serve to make life more uncomfortable for all.

Alcohol driven public disorder is on the increase. I would, nevertheless, comment that the existing provision is not successfully policed at the moment and would be sceptical of a borough wide DPPO being successfully policed. It is all well and good for the council to pursue such powers and it looks good that the council is doing this, but the reality on the ground is of a council in retreat.

I am concerned about my personal safety on the streets.

1. It is not necessary and there is insufficient evidence for its justification
2. There is no guarantee it will be enforced fairly and properly
3. The Police lack the required level of resource to manage on a borough-wide level

4. It doesn't tackle the fundamental issue or provide any help for problem drinkers

CIP - Cricklewood Improvement Programme http://www.cricklewoodcip.org/support_us.html is an initiative in Cricklewood led by local people concerned about the quality of our local community e.g. anti social behaviour, street drinking, criminal

activity etc. The group is made up of residents from Childs Hill, Fortune Green and Mapesbury. As Barnet residents we are fed up with the level of anti social behaviour usually associated with street drinking and want the council and ourselves

to work together to resolve this. We fully support a DPPO for all of Barnet

It's good for the police to have this powers.

Provides for a more ordered, tranquil and family-orientated community and living environment.

Cannot really see what the benefits may be and whether the difficulties in enforcement will generate any meaningful long term benefit.

I shop regularly in Edgware and find it very intimidating to pass the betting shops and grocery stores on Station Road as there are groups of males that congregate outside with cans of alcohol. I cannot wait until this proposal is brought in.

This may help reduce the number of people drinking in public places and enable the police to have more powers in this area.

Drinking in public spaces can pose problems as it sometimes makes people behave in an antisocial manner which they wouldn't when sober. Drinkers tend to congregate in areas with seats in them such as church yards and can be disruptive to the public using those areas.

our neighbourhood will be safer for both adults and children.

We frequently have people sitting in our graveyard drinking excessively and it makes some of the elderly people in the congregation afraid to walk past them to get into the church

As the administrator of St Margaret's Church, Edgware, we have a churchyard open to the public which from time to time is used as a drinking spot and public toilet by local street drinkers, much to the dismay and distress of church visitors

and neighbours. Anything that will help to curb the drinking meets with our approval.

Most crime and in particular anti social behaviour out in the community is very frequently related to alcohol and its excess. Such activities often disturb interrupt and sometimes frighten the public especially the very young, elderly and young women on their own.

We need to be vigilant in stopping/controlling alcohol drank in open spaces.

This does not of course include families ,couples or groups having picnics and/or out on a day out where reasonable drinking should be permitted. Officers will know when intervention is required.

I personally was abused by one of those people whO were drinking alcohol on the public pavement in Finchley Central sometime ago, and I have never forgotten the experience. Residents need some sort of protection from such experiences, and your future plan will go some way to dealing with this.

I live in cricklewood land and its permanently full of people drinking on the streets teh is togetehr wih all the chicken shops and pubs makes it very unpleasnet. I have also had to intervene after seeing children on thier own drunk and being appraoched by 'adult' police simply do not police the area.
I grew up in Hampstead Garden Suburb. I had not realised until many many years later that there are no pubs within the area.

On the one hand you might say I was spoilt but on the other hand I think I was blessed by living in an area which did not encourage drinking and residents never came into contact with drunken behaviour in the neighbouring streets.

Without realising it the residents of the Suburb are protected from an alcohol and once I understood what it had achieved, I realised that I had never missed the pub on my doorstep.

That is why I am in favour of the proposal

It is the drunks outside who cause a lot of problems and intimidate others on the roads and pavements either through abuse or just generally being load and difficult.

Drinking should only be carried out in Pubs and clubs, it is not right for people to walk the street drinking Special Brew etc

Due to the nuisance and problems caused for local residents by people drinking in public places.

They are intended to tackle nuisance or annoyance associated with drinking alcohol in a public place.

Feel it wuld make the Borough a safer place

common sense

Excessive drinking in Pubs & outside Pubs has become very common and leads to anti-social behaviour including very loud talking at late hours when most working people are trying to catch their sleep which is frequently disrupted by

people drinking heavily with no control over their behaviour.

This is just another way to take away people's freedom of choice. If the person consuming alcohol is making trouble the police have enough powers to deal with it.

think it will help keep the area safer and a more pleasant place to live

Too often there are seen one or two persons walking around or sitting at the edge of the pavement drinking a can of lager or beer, their choice of language needs a lot to be desired. Whether there is a national sports event on or not, unless

it is in a licensed area ie: PH forecourt or grounds, drinking in public areas should be controlled.

I believe this will provide a great level of safety in the area and reduce the crime rate.

Although in favour I don't see how you will stop drinking in Edgwarebury Park, when the park is closed and with the police having no access. Regular park patrols by the police is what is needed.

To combat antisocial behaviour

I think it would help to clean up our streets

Anything that reduces public consumption of alcohol and consequential behaviour related issues seems like a good thing.

Too many drunk people cause disruption at night times and are a danger to the people in the area.

There is often a lot of noise particularly at night from Station Road, Edgware when people spill out of the pubs. It can be quite frightening to walk in those areas and I know of people who have been racially abused by drunken groups who are in the street

It will at least give young people a boundary (which is not already in their lives) to stop and think before drinking.

I regret the change I see occurring in Edgware, particularly centred around the changing nature of the retail outlets in Station Road, including betting shops, bars and other alcohol sources. In tandem, the kind of people now seen even

mid-morning in the area who are intoxicated and or drinking openly - whilst respectable children, shoppers and commuters are walking the area is unwholesome and unwelcome. The police presence is all but gone now and the only

authority figures now seen are over-zealous parking wardens. A shift in emphasis in favour of respectable, law-abiding, tax-paying residents will be most welcome.

I am in favour of making the Borough a socially safer, environmentally friendlier area, and I think this would definitely help

There is nothing worse than seeing people being drunk and disorderly in the street and all that goes with people being so drunk...e.g urinating in the street,vomiting in the street and being aggressive.

It will make the area safer for the public

Fed up with drunken lots

It will provide far better control to stop people from drinking in public places. They can drink in a pub or at home but, if they are causing problems for the rest of the community and are drinking (the two normally go together) in a public

place, then this proposal will enable the police to properly tackle the issues.

This will make the local area safer and more enjoyable for the vast majority of those who live in Barnet who conduct themselves properly.

This will improve the safety of the neighbourhood

the aggressive nature of the drinkers make it feel an insecure and intimidating area for the public

We are in between alcohol free zones. We have street drinkers at all times, when moved on they go into the parks, this makes the area they are in very intimidating, as they get very loud, swearing and threatening making it difficult to pass

them to extremely the elderly and young who are scared to pass them. The government are trying to stop extreme drinking, surely an alcohol free zone would also help reduce the consumption of excessive alcohol on our streets in Burnt Oak

which is part of the borough of Barnet.

The police already have powers to arrest people for drunk and disorderly behaviour. They are most likely already aware of who these problem people are, and should deal with them more severely, to prevent repercussions.

This ban would impose upon the enjoyment of ordinary, sensible residents who are simply enjoying a glass of Pimms in the park on a lovely summer's day. Why let the few spoil things for the many?

Being drunk in public is a thing to be discouraged.

In my opinion, about 60% of anti-social behaviour is drunkenness related. I am in total support of any ORDER which will curtail drunkenness in public places.

I think that the police should have the powers to deal with people behaving in an anti-social way, due to consumption of alcohol.

Drastic overkill to declare entire borough as DPPO. Utterly disproportionate and adds nothing that cannot be dealt with existing legislation.

Do not consider this proposal to be reasonable, necessary or proportionate.

Nuisance caused by drinking in public places is not common in Mill Hill where I live, but there is the rare instance when such an Order might be helpful. However, I am concerned that family picnics in parks in which the adults may have an

alcoholic drink, and no nuisance is caused, are not caught by this Order.

It will allow the police to penalise people innocently drinking small amounts in eg. a park, or even outside their front door. This proposal covers the WHOLE borough, not carefully targeted problem areas.

I can say that I can't remember ever

seeing any problem drinking anywhere near where I live, or anywhere in the borough, so it's totally unnecessary. What happens if an 'enforcer' oversteps the mark - is there any comeback at all? Any restraint?

The causes of street drinking and drug use may be closely linked, but are little understood, studied or confronted. Enabling contact with 'offenders' during enforcement will provide opportunity for qualified professionals to gain improved and

recorded access to case history information. The measure would form a useful background contribution to Barnet's Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

Am not informed enough

To enhance the pleasure of walking around LBB without being pestered or offended by the objectionable and intrusive behaviour of those who aren't in control due to excess alcohol and/or drugs consumption.

I have 2 teenage boys and I feel it is a good proposal for the area.

Seeing youths drinking does not help the younger children. It only encourages and harms.

I don't want drunk people drinking in my road

Will hopefully reduce crime

Drinking alcohol in public places may set a bad example for minors.

Excessive use of alcohol is directly connected with anti-social behaviour, therefore drinking in public should be stopped before it results in trouble or crime.

I can see a need to control/prevent public disorder. I worry about the police or others abusing or using such powers unreasonably and in an authoritarian manner. Human rights are threatened in a number of ways these days. We should proceed

with care down this road

for a more safe environment

because there are too many young people standing on street corners just drinking and annoying people walking past

Keep streets cleaner, less problems with those who have drunk too much.

It will help encourage people who are thinking of breaching normal codes of behaviour to become aware of their responsibilities to fellow citizens, give them an understanding of what is and is not acceptable in a decent society, respect

the rights of others and acquire self-respect and dignity for themselves.

I don't agree with people drinking alcohol outside of licensed premises
The Order would assist in reducing the growing levels of alcohol abuse present not only in Barnet but across the UK generally. I support the proposal.
My local high street / Station Road in Edgware is now a "dump". Lots of young men drink openly on the pavement and intimidate females and old people as they pass.

It is an absolute disgrace.

To ensure everyone has the right to move about the borough in safety.

To reduce antisocial behaviour

public safety is paramount. Excess alcohol not only endangers the drinker but is a danger to onlookers / residents.

If known places can be identified where such danger exists control would be

in the public interest

I don't like people to congregate in public areas and drink

it's not nice for the public.

let them drink in bars pubs clubs not on the street.

It represents a further incursion of regulation into everyday life. While it may not be the intention that the police should prevent the enjoyment of, say, wine during a picnic in the park, one can envisage a situation where it is more

convenient to impose consistent blanket policing. Indeed with an increasing political sensitivity to profiling, one can see this on the horizon.

With the limited information I have been able to gather about your proposals and because I have not been provided with any evidence for the claims of success of the existing trial zones, I am therefore disposed to say that I disagree

with the proposal for a Designated Public Place order. It is clear to me that nothing has done more than the introduction of 24/7 alcohol sales to encourage the drinking culture that you may be wishing to suppress. Perhaps you could

handle the issue with less risk of unintended consequences by curtailing the availability of alcohol and of course by engaging rather than regulating the energies of young people.

I believe instead of draconian controls to manage the few spots of difficulty that education and support for young people, giving them more sustainable life opportunities is a better way forward. As a council tax payer I am not in favour

of spending money on this scheme. It will simply lead to community unrest, disproportionate application and could lead to divisive community relations, where engagement with community issues and ensuring alternatives and education

on alcohol and drug misuse are addressed is a better investment for the individuals themselves and for positive community approaches.

Anti-social behaviour caused by excessive alcohol consumption in public area is a nuisance to everyone.

Stop thugs

Don't like to see rowdy drinking in public

The area I live in is predominantly residential. Families with young children and elderly residents are seriously affected by loutish behaviour. This then impacts on the social environment, property prices and general behaviour can

then deteriorate further (graffiti etc).

I am therefore strongly in favour of the introduction of a "Designated Public Place Order"

We are all in favour of efforts by the authorities to maintain law and order and we believe these suggestions will not only further that aim but also lead to an improvement in public behaviour and local cohesion

Need more police presence to deter anti-social behaviour

yes please go ahead. alcohol is getting cheaper through supermarkets stores; that does not mean we have to put up with more nuisance.

I believe there should be more control over the way we use alcohol in the UK, especially with regard to binge drinking and the way that alcohol affects people when they are grouped together.

It will assist in maintaining a good community spirit and hopefully prevent over drinking by the youth better, safer neighbourhood, less incidents requiring medical treatment, reduced noise

I go shopping in Edgware every day and it is very intimidating passing the betting shops as there are always men outside smoking and drinking cans of alcohol. They have also been outside the Broadwalk shopping centre.

For safer neighborhoods

Providing it was introduced with care and implemented with sensitivity it would help to protect and improve our environment.

I like most people enjoy social drinking however the trend for large quantities of alcohol to be consumed on the street on the way to and returning from a 'night out' has increased significantly with the decline prices offered by supermarkets.

Often this is associated with a decline in social behaviour which is often not acceptable to other pedestrians or local residents.

So that the authorities have some control over anti social behaviour in public spaces

It will make streets more safer.

It gives too wide powers to the police.

I would accept a proposal less widely drafted in respect of seizure - 'anything they believe to be alcohol'

is too widely drafted.

Anything that makes Barnet a more peaceful place and control's drink related public disorder is to be welcomed.

Drunkenness is bad under any circumstances: for the drinker and for the unwilling observer/sufferer.

I cannot understand why it is regarded as something clever or admirable. We do not have to experience it on the street. One of the

advantages of the Muslim population is that most do not smoke or drink.

There are too many occasions now when we become intimidated by alcohol induced poor behaviour.

I am in favour of any deterrents.

to reduce/prevent a nuisance to other users of public areas

Barnet should continue to be a safe and secure borough for families

It will reduce anti social behaviour as we live close to the park and empty beer cans are left everywhere along with some noisy behaviour.

Too many young people sitting in parks and old!!! making noise and being rude. The shops should not sell it too them. So I am in favour of this.

There are public places around the borough where drinking alcohol takes place such as parks and certain street locations and this can lead to unsocial behaviour and can be intimidating to local residents.

There are plenty of pubs etc. where drinking can legitimately take place or people should drink at home if they do not want to use a pub.

If this would help keep our communities safe, it is a very good idea

The community (of all ages) should be able to live in a non-threatening environment.

Rather obvious but here goes: Keeps noise, litter and bad behaviour down.

do not think it is necessary

This will help citizens to go about their business safely and peacefully which is a good thing. It will cut down on the cost of dealing with anti social behaviour as knowledge and understanding of the consequences spreads.

Anyone causing problems due to drunkenness would have less opportunity to do so.

I would think that in certain places it is good to have a PPO but I do not know what the implications would be to have a blanket order across the borough, so I cannot be either in favour or against it at the moment.

If action isn't taken now to keep the area civilised the future will be shameful

You are of course treating a symptom of social decay, we should be eradicating the cause via citizenship education. There has been a lot of talk about this being part of the curriculum, is it happening?

These jobs are tomorrow's parents,

god help us,

We in Edgware have been ignored by the council for many years. We live close to the town centre Garden City and have to put up with alcoholics vomiting, urinating and defecating especially in the local churchyard. In addition to this they

shout use abusive language and now we are confronted by East Europeans sitting on garden walls and doorsteps drinking away the afternoon. Now that Harrow have the ban in situ on their side of the row all their alcoholics spend the day in Edgware.

The late night drinking in North Finchley has, over the years, caused lots of damage and high nuisance to residents and shopkeepers.

Any sensible measure designed to reduce the consumption of alcohol should be implemented.

The area around and behind Burnt Oak Underground station (Walting Avenue and the car-park) is flooded by drunks, and they urinating in public and to date the council has failed to tackle this or keep up the cleaning of the area.

Therefore it makes sense to get to the source of the problem, even though in my view the council should be more proactive in sorting out the problem.

To reduce drunkenness and the risk of alcohol-related harm.

I feel very strongly that something has to be done about the excessive drinking that is so prevalent now and if people can only drink in places licensed to serve drinks it would be a great improvement to

the whole ethos of the Borough.

I think this is an excessive restriction on people's rights. To apply a blanket order borough-wide and would probably also be unenforceable in practice.

Its a good thing to have dedicated people to be on the case of those that feel that alcohol related anti social behaviour is acceptable.

I am against drunkenness in public, but the proposal would not prevent people getting drunk in licensed premises or in private premises and then going out and causing a nuisance in the street.

I haven't noticed these people recently but there were frequently people sitting and drinking outside the Tesco's in Ballards lane and I found this this very unpleasant. They also used to congregate in the little alleyway which connected

the wide pavement to the one way street behind Tesco's. I never use this short cut because of this as I always felt very intimidated.

I would feel safer knowing that there were no drunks roaming the streets causing trouble.

I am in favour of any effort to control unpleasant side effects of alcohol consumption and I am assuming this is the intention of DPPO

It would help to stop drinking on public places such as station road Edgware and surrounding area which is causing problems with rough living people and drunks on the street also people taking drinks outside public houses onto the street,

best

Concerned that an unneeded heavy handed approach may be taken by the authorities.

Common provision in USA cities in which I have lived and without question keeps alcohol related trouble to a minimum.

It would stop groups of people gathering together to drink in public and give the police powers to move on any person drinking in the street

Drinking alcohol in public places is often the cause of offensive behavior and the general public can feel threatened by it.

I feel that the proposal has merit and will help curtail crime and nuisance behaviour!

One can feel intimidated and threatened when walking through public areas where there are people drinking This will stop person coming over from harrow to drink where they have the DDPO and make it safer for us to travel in Barnet where we live.

I am very aware that being drunk causes violence and behaviour which poses a risk to law abiding citizens who do not wish their neighbourhood to attract characters who are disreputable even before they have had a drink!

Police and Barnet council allow premises to be licensed until hours past minight and often these

premises involve use of drugs,decent people do not need these undesirables to congregate in that which is a peaceful area.

Calling the police to sort out problems results in police/ambulance sirens to be sounded at any hour,disturbing the elderly,the unwell and often causing difficulty in sleeping amongst babies and children

The drunk defecate in in people's front gardens and leave their litter

The clientele who congregate for 10pm opening use foul language which is very embarrassing

when we leave a restaurant with guests!

In one particular supermarket,staff have to clear away syringes and the like before opening next day!

Cut down on litter, nusaince, and enable everybody to enjoy the public spaces

Let's limit excess drinking if we can.

Anything that will discourage antisocial behaviour is good. I don't think streets should have people drinking and the public should feel safe during their daily routines.

This is an invasion of Civil Liberties by the Council. The answer to public drunkenness is to arrest the perpetrators, and not to make it impossible for a member of the Public to have a glass of wine or beer in a "Public" place.

Brings safety aspects to the borough

It will benefit the borough if anti-social behaviour as a result of excess alcohol consumption can be reduced.

Anything that reduces antisocial behaviour is a good thing

I can see no good reason to consume alcohol in a public place other than licensed premises.

I am assuming that the proposal is to eliminate drinking outside anywhere in the Borough though, presumably there may be exemptions such as a family picnic.

Recent rioting in London was largely fuelled by alcohol, proving once again the old adage

"when the drink's in the wit's out"

I do not think that we need anymore drinking places

Any action which makes Barnet safer is welcome

If someone is causing a public nuisance because they're drinking, the police ought to be allowed to take the drink away.

I find it unacceptable that people use parks to overindulge in alcohol and then use them as a public convenience. Drinking in public places needs to be more controlled generally so that drinkers anti social behaviour does not impact on the general public

Drinking alcohol in a public place increases the likelihood of irresponsible and potentially harmful behaviour to both the drinker and passers-by. It interferes with and disrupts the usual activities of such public places, preventing people from going about their usual business.

Also, importantly, drinking in a public place has no time limits or geographical boundaries; meaning people inclined to drink in public places can do so when and where they wish making the problem unmanageable. For these reasons, drinking in a public place must be condemned as an anti-social behaviour and legislated against accordingly.

Occasional nuisance drinking in E. Finchley High Rd. Also observed same in N. Finchley Tally Ho area. Unacceptable behaviour takes up too much of police and hospital time and skills.

As you have explained it will help create and maintain a safe, healthy and enjoyable environment.

It might ease the rowdiness on the streets

I am happy for anyone to drink in appropriate premises or their homes, but I do not wish to see drinking or drunken behaviour in public places.

If it helps to reduce the young drinkers who walk around and congregate on the local street corners with cans and large bottles of cider, then it has to be worth while. Most people who enjoy a drink can do so in a pub or house etc without causing grief/noise/litter to local residents.

Too many people believe that cheap alcohol purchased from local supermarkets can be consumed in public places nearby. Sentinel Square, Brent Street, NW4 is a prime example.

All too often drinking to excess in these instances

leads to anti-social behaviour, or possibly criminal offences, to the annoyance of passer-by and residents. There are a nuisance and causing litter around the area with their cans and they are particularly at Cricklewood Broadway and some of these people are coming over from Brent

I am in favour of this proposal because I see it as a positive step towards reducing under age alcohol consumption and antisocial behaviour.

I am not aware of any evidence that such a widespread order would address any perceived issues.

I expect current laws may give police sufficient powers to tackle the effects of alcohol abuse (Public Nuisance offences such as

violent disorder, affray, disorderly behaviour or drunk and disorderly). If not, then the law needs to be changed by parliament. A hotch-potch of local rules can only lead to confusion. It may be that better or more prominent policing is required rather than more sweeping powers

People should not be allowed to make a public nuisance of themselves when they have been drinking.

If they will not control their own behaviour then sanctions need to be imposed. We need to reclaim the streets for 'normal' people.

deals with nuisance

Drinking in public places [as described] must give rise to increased display of drunkenness therein and ultimately to a greater risk of offence to people going about their business and offences that may result in violence in public.

I think the Borough is too large for this Proposal to be policed properly. The problem drinkers will just move on to another area within the Borough to continue their 'activities'.

We am so fed up with drunken, loutish behaviour which does not seem to be controlled or monitored.

These designated areas will be a "Breath of Fresh Air" for us residents who have to put up with

abuse and threats from these empty-headed louts... Old and Young alike...

Thank you and hope all residents agree with us.

This is using a hammer to crack a nut. Sensible managed crime prevention precludes having to impose draconian rules/laws that affect normal law abiding citizens. Deal with the problem of troublesome drinking without imposing

restrictions on law abiding citizens. Stop this "lowest common denominator" simplistic nonsense.

There is too much disorder in our Society, where citizens flout the law and conduct all sorts of abusive

behaviour which is undesirable, unproductive, and affects a lot of innocent citizens who are law abiding.
Bad behaviour and Crime

should be reduced at all costs to maintain law and order so that all citizens can move freely without fear and live in peace in their own home and neighbourhood.

Move street drinkers off the streets as they bring problems to areas

Much as I realise that this will just move the problem on and is not a social response, I am also resident in this neighbourhood and don't want to see it on my doorstep. I do think we should be looking at why it is happening too, however.

I am in favour because this will help Edgware to become a safer more attractive environment for which to live work shop and socialise.

People will be able to go about their normal lives without feeling intimidated by these individuals.

I believe the public will feel safer knowing they are not going to be confronted by drunk people as they go about their day to day business.

This goes beyond what Parliament planned for either the Licensing Act or the DPPO legislation

I don't believe it is necessary to drink in the street. Anyone doing this is likely to be an addict or a drunkard.

the Police need this proposal to enable them to help addicts by guiding them towards support and take others off the streets.

There is no problem that needs these draconian measures.

The police already have powers to arrest people who are drunk and disorderly.

the area needs to be cleaned up from street drinkers and homeless down and outs and we need the police to be given all the support possible in their endeavours to keep our areas as we want to see them, there is a lot going on this

year and we need to be a window for the world to see how lovely barnet is, edgware used to be such a beautiful area and now it is on a rapid downhill slide getting a lot of bad publicity for all the wrong reasons and most of which could

be avoided and a great place brought back to life. please let us have the good old days back, it is not difficult to keep law and order if the support is there.

Unfortunately many people especially towards the weekends spend the money on Alcohol and Drugs which on occasions spills out on to the street..Which results in Unsocial Behaviour, Fighting and people being Sick and causing a

Nuisance to other people...Having this Would be a Improvement, Though the Only problem I see is Policing it, Since recently the Met Police are Cutting the Frontline officers to save money etc...I think you Need to Ensure you have

Enough Met Police patrolling before you make these proposals...

this should have done a long time ago!

street drinking is becoming a threat to public safety in the borough and the police must enforce a ban as soon as

possible

Street drinking is a major problem in the Borough and was most likely a factor involved in an incident in Golders Green Road on Saturday night 9th where nearly a dozen police officers were involved in breaking up a very violent fight.

Such an incident was virtually unheard of before street drinking became prevalent in Golders Green.

The DPPO should be passed as soon as possible and local Police should adopt a zero tolerance to street drinking to protect the public.

It would reduce street drinking and the attached ASB and make me feel safer walking around Barnet.

Litter and rowdy behaviour

It would hopefully put a stop to some of the bad behaviour currently seen around and go some way to stop residents from being offended by it

It can be very scary walking down Brent Street or in Sentinal Square when there are groups of men drinking. It feels very threatening and it also occurs in Hendon Park

At the moment drinking on the streets and in public places is becoming more and more widespread.

This has definitely led to more and more raucous and anti social behaviour on the streets and a litter problem.

Wherever you go there

are discarded drink bottles and cans.

You have presented no evidence to support the idea that this measure is reasonable, necessary or proportionate.

It will help the police to keep street drinkers away from Barnet

any proposals which can make Barnet the best borough to live in must be a good thing.

The residents we know all take a great pride in their homes and the streets in many shopping areas are a disgrace, not

least because of the neglect

and also the nomadic people roaming around and living in doorways and using public places as toilets - all of them are stoned out of their minds on drink/drugs

If people get together for an outdoor picnic w food and alcohol this is a pleasure which should not be infringed upon. I think the new powers would be a useful tool for the Police who don't want to resort to the more heavy handed existing powers.

Its about time this was done .Men using our shop fronts as loos!!!

I am concerned about people who drink on the streets as this is anti social and unpleasant particularly when groups of alcoholics gather and cause a public nuisance. The authorities should have powers to deal with this.

Small group of street drinkers causing ASB in the Burnt Oak area urinating in public taking up all seating at bus stops shouting abuse at members of public and empty cans dumped in the street

Such a regulation is long overdue and has been a success in other adjoining boroughs

Often respectable family shopping streets like Golders Green road have people loitering in the street openly drinking alcohol. Such behaviour severely impacts on the amenity value of the area and increases litter. It is a highly unpleasant experience for both adults and children wanting to use the many respectable eating place in Golders Green.

The local police should be given this additional power to adopt a zero tolerance regime to street drinking
Stop asb

I am against the proposal

A borough wide order is not necessary and disproportionate, it will impacts people enjoying parks and open spaces, many people will be prevented from enjoying wine with a picnic in the parks. This will discriminate against those without gardens.

According to your own DPR

On 1st September 2001, sections 12-16 of the Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 came into force. The provisions replaced local bye laws and enable local authorities to designate places where restrictions on public drinking apply. These powers were introduced to explicitly tackle crime, disorder and nuisance associated with the consumption of alcohol in a public place. Local authorities must be satisfied that nuisance to members of the public, or a section of the public, or disorder has been associated with the consumption of alcohol in an area proposed to be designated before it creates and Order.

I do not believe Barnet can be satisfied of the above requirements and I do not believe anybody could be satisfied because the nuisance will not have been caused in every part of the borough. As this cannot be the case, the council will be opening itself to legal challenge which it would loose, therefore this proposal does not provide value for money.

I am against the proposal.

I don't trust this emasure to sensibly enforced. It is a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

I doubt that there is sufficient resource to fully, properly and effectively enforce the proposed order 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

It doesn't fix the problems that the problem drinkers have. Resource should be put into solving the real problem of the 84 chaotic drinkers. You would have the first £12,500 for targeted remedial measures by not proceeding with the DPPO

Approximately 90% of Edgware Quaker meeting are in favour of the proposed order. The remainder have concerns regarding the infringements to civil liberties that the order may impose

I am writing to express my support for the extension of anti drinking laws to cover the whole of Barnet. This summer I have witnessed a sudden rise in the number of street drinkers in the Leicester Road/Station Road area of New Barnet.

There are often many street drinkers in Highlands gardens (a small park in Leicester Road).

Your website has pointed out that these powers are NOT directed against people enjoying a picnic in the park.

Therefore in principle I believe the extension of police powers in this area is a good thing – as long as those powers are not exercised unnecessarily.

Please ensure my objections to the above proposed order is recorded in the appropriate Cabinet report on the following grounds

1) This order is completely unnecessary and is an extension of petty regulation and will make little

difference because these “blanket bans “are totally unenforceable due to the lack of Police manpower and indeed willpower

2) It is on a par with those Boroughs that are “nuclear free zones “or “fair-trade Boroughs”. Just because a local authority declares it does not mean it is so

3) It has been consistently rejected by Council Administrations over the last 10 years as the Police who continuously propose it refuse to commit any manpower to enforce. It falls into the same category as the suggested “Borough wide dangerous dog bans “

4) So called alcohol free zones have been in place at four sites (considered hotspots) in the Borough since 2003 and the Metropolitan Police have taken little action to enforce them, just visit North Finchley

5) The power to stop drunkenness already exists, it is a criminal offence to be drunk in the street, and there is also a substantial amount of legislation already in place to deal with anti- social behaviour and the Licensing Act covers inappropriate alcohol sales . The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 is one of the worst pieces of legislation introduced by the Labour Government in their then desire to be “seen to be doing something “

6) As currently worded picnics in parks and open spaces would be affected

7) The recent Diamond Jubilee street parties would have fallen foul of this order as it is currently worded

8) There is no statistical evidence from Boroughs that have done this that it in any way contributes to the reduction in crime

9) The Borough Commander has provided no evidence as to why this is a priority for example how many of the 21 ward CAP panels have listed “tackling street drinking “as a priority ?

 AGENDA ITEM 8

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 July 2012 |
| Subject | The Spires Shopping Centre, Market Site and Territorial Army Centre, Chipping Barnet– Draft Planning Framework for adoption |
| Report of | Cabinet Member for Planning |
| Summary | The Planning Framework will provide a structure for managing change and guiding future development to ensure that this supports the long term vitality and viability of the town centre and protects and enhances this part of the borough. Following a period of public consultation the draft framework is being brought to Cabinet for formal adoption. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Officer Contributors | Lucy Shomali – Assistant Director – Strategic Planning and Regeneration |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards affected | High Barnet |
| Enclosures | Appendix 1 – Consultation responses Appendix 2 – The Spires Shopping Centre, Market Site and Territorial Army Centre, Chipping Barnet – Draft Planning Framework |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | Not applicable |
| Key decision | No |

Contact for further information: Lucy Shomali, Assistant Director – Strategic Planning and Regeneration 020 8359 4749, lucy.shomali@barnet.gov.uk

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 Note the outcome of the public consultation on the draft Planning Framework for The Spires Shopping Centre, Market Site and Territorial Army Centre, Chipping Barnet as set out in Appendix 1, and**
- 1.2 Formally adopt the draft Planning Framework for The Spires Shopping Centre, Market Site and Territorial Army Centre, Chipping Barnet attached as Appendix 2.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet, 3 April 2008, Decision 10 (Vibrant and Viable Town Centres – A Suburban Town Centre Strategy for Barnet).
- 2.2 Cabinet, 3 February 2010, Decision 6 (Responding to the Recession – Suburban Town Centres).
- 2.3 Cabinet, 29 March 2011, Decision 6a (Core Strategy, Pre-Submission Amendment for Public Consultation).

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The three priority outcomes set out in the 2012/13 Corporate Plan are: –
 - Better services with less money
 - Sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities
 - A successful London suburb
- 3.2 Through the preparation of a Planning Framework, the Council can deliver the Corporate Plan strategic objective of ensuring that Chipping Barnet town centre is a vibrant place where business can thrive.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Failure to sustain and enhance Barnet's town centres will impair their key contribution to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the borough.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010 ("the Act"), the council has a legislative duty to have 'due regard' to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations in the contexts of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy, and maternity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.
- 5.2 Town centre strategies and frameworks aim to create the right environment for vibrant and viable town centres in Barnet. Integral to this is the need to respect the diversity of the town centre network and to take into account the different requirements of each town centre, and the different needs and preferences of those who use them.
- 5.3 The individual Town Centre Strategies and frameworks will identify opportunities to enhance the public realm and improve accessibility for all users and will seek to support the provision of a wide range of shops and services to meet the needs of diverse local populations.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 The costs of preparing the Chipping Barnet Planning Framework have been contained within the Strategic Planning Service budget.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 The development of Town Centre Strategies or Planning Frameworks are currently not a statutory requirement in the United Kingdom. However, the London Plan emphasises the strategic importance of town centres and contains a series of specific policies for London's town centres, which all local authorities must be in general conformity with. This includes maximising choice in town centres and promoting sustainable access to goods and services.
- 7.2 Upon adoption the Planning Framework would become a material planning consideration when determining planning applications in this area.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1 Decisions relating to the Town Centre Strategies and Planning Frameworks are for the Executive as a whole. Responsibilities of the Executive are set out in Section 3 (Responsibility for Functions) of the Council's Constitution.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 Chipping Barnet is one of Barnet's 14 district town centres and is broadly comparable in size with North Finchley, Burnt Oak and Finchley Church End. It is one of the most historic town centres in the borough known for the Barnet Market which has been established since the 12th Century.
- 9.2 Whilst it is an established local town centre, it is recognised that its character, appearance and facilities could be further enhanced and the area could be more cohesive and interconnected. The vacancy rate has increased from 4.5% in summer 2010 to 8.7% in 2012. Half the increase is accounted for by The Spires with 6 vacant units in April 2012 compared to 1 unit in 2010. The rest of the vacancy increase has come mainly on the primary frontage with the closure of a number of convenience stores, a Bar and two high street names – WHSmith and Claires Accessories, although WHSmiths has consolidated into one store in The Spires.
- 9.3 The Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment prepared for the Council by GVA Grimley in 2009 found that Chipping Barnet was a centre which offers a good range of comparison, convenience and service goods provision from a mix of multiple and independent retailers. The focus of the centre is the Spires Shopping Centre which provides a modern yet sympathetic centre, largely occupied by multiple high street retailers and anchored by the Waitrose food store.
- 9.4 A considerable amount of research has been undertaken into the issues and opportunities for the town centre, both within the Council and by external bodies. This work has highlighted a development opportunity that exists around the Spires Shopping Centre/Market Site/Territorial Army (TA) centre that if pro-actively managed could provide the potential to initiate and support the rejuvenation of the wider town centre.

- 9.5 The town centre is identified in Barnet's Local Plan as a Priority Town Centre with potential for future growth. The draft Planning Framework attached to this report is intended to provide a structure for managing anticipated change and guiding future development to ensure that this supports the long term vitality and viability of the town centre and protects and enhances this part of the borough. The strategy will be a material consideration in the determination of future planning applications within the town centre.
- 9.6 The Planning Framework has four key objectives:
- Respect for and celebration of the town's history;
 - Enlargement of the retail offer with the re-provision of the historic Barnet Market at its heart ;
 - Provision of high quality public realm and improved appearance of this part of the town centre; and
 - Improved transport facilities and services for all road users including in particular enhanced traffic and parking management measures.
- 9.7 **Public Consultation:** The Planning Framework was subject to public consultation during March and April 2012 via a local exhibition and circulation of information to local resident and amenity groups. Over 130 responses were received from individuals, resident and amenity groups and landowners. The outcome of the consultation is set out in detail in Appendix 1.
- 9.8 Four key themes have emerged from the consultation.
- Very strong support for the retention and enhancement (both in the short and long term) of the Market in Chipping Barnet and improvement of the connection between the Market/The Spires and the High Street.
 - Concern that the increased cost of parking and the change to the pay by phone system are having a significant impact on the number of visitors to the town centre.
 - A strong aspiration from key stakeholders to work collaboratively in considering the future of the wider town centre, either through the creation of a Neighbourhood Forum as provided for by the Localism Act or through reviving the Town Centre Strategy Board which met during 2010.
 - The need for the development of a Masterplan or site specific briefs to ensure that the opportunities provided by each of the three key sites within the Planning Framework are considered comprehensively
- 9.9 Key landowners, in particular UBS the owners of the Spires, also commented on the framework and were generally supportive of the vision for a town centre that is economically, commercially and environmentally viable and provides a vibrant destination. Specific comments were made in relation to their site specific aspirations, in particular the need for flexibility in how development comes forward and the form that it could take. The outcome of the consultation and specific issues that were raised has helped shape the development principles within the planning framework and the strategy for delivery.

9.10 **Consolidation of the Town Centre**

Expanding retail floorspace within the existing defined town centre will help achieve a 'critical mass' of development that will generate a level of activity which is financially viable. However, it is vital that this is achieved without harming the character of the area, impacting on Chipping Barnet's local distinctiveness or damaging the vitality and viability of either the wider town centre or centres elsewhere in the borough.

9.11 **Creation of a 'Retail Triangle'**

The creation of a retail triangle between The Spires/Barnet Market/the High Street will enhance permeability and linkages between uses. Barnet Market is currently located to the rear of the High Street. By enhancing access and improving visibility or relocating the Market closer to the existing retail uses there is an opportunity for a well supported community asset to be revitalised and enhanced.

In parallel to the public consultation period, UBS have commenced a series of meetings with key stakeholders to begin to explore in more detail the opportunities provided by their recent acquisition of Barnet Market and how these could inform their proposals for the area.

9.12 **Enhancing the vitality and viability of the town centre**

Whilst Chipping Barnet is an established town centre, recent surveys indicate that the vitality and viability of the town centre has been affected by the current economic recession with vacancy rates having nearly doubled in the last two years. This could be addressed by:

- enhancing and expanding the offer provided by The Spires through opening up its current frontage and improving pedestrian linkages through the facility.
- exploring opportunities to incorporate Barnet Market into The Spires thereby creating a retail triangle between the High Street/The Spires and Barnet Market and enhancing accessibility and visibility of all three retail offers.
- Improving the layout of units to encourage take up by established retailers thereby providing further anchor attractions to encourage footfall to this part of the centre.

9.13 **Residential led development on the Territorial Army Centre site**

Residential development within and on the edge of the town centre can help strengthen its vitality and viability. To achieve this it is envisaged that the TA site would not be an appropriate location for retail use but should it come forward for development it should be for a residential led use – with a particular focus on family housing. There may also be opportunities for appropriate community or leisure elements to be included in any scheme on the site.

The redevelopment of this site would need to be the subject of a further detailed planning guidance and any development would need to reflect the surrounding established residential grain.

9.14 **As a result of the consultation the following key changes have been made to the final framework:**

- a) Updated explanation of the planning policy framework which forms the background to the strategy, to reflect changes since the document was written.
- b) Greater emphasis on the retention of the Barnet Market and measures to improve its visibility and connectivity to the rest of the town centre

- c) Inclusion of reference to the need to improve the current Market site in the short to medium term
- d) Removal of reference to The Spires being open at night
- e) Inclusion of a reference that the TA site could be used for community/leisure uses as well as housing
- f) Greater emphasis on the potential to relocate/reprovide bus stops and enhance the public realm in Stapylton Road (comments from various bodies and individuals).

9.15 The issues of the cost of parking and the method of payment for parking which were raised during the consultation are not issues that can be addressed through a planning framework. These are being considered by the council as part of a wider review of the approach to parking in town centres across the borough.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.

Legal – CH

Finance – JH/MC

Appendix One - Consultation Feedback

Responses received to the consultation

A total of 128 responses were received in response to the public consultation on the Planning Framework. These comprised:

- 29 responses submitted online through the portal Engage Space/Spires email.
- 95 feedback forms were completed and left at the exhibition in Chipping Barnet library.

In addition to the above comments the Barnet Society; Barnet Residents Association; Hadley Residents Association; The Friends of Barnet Market; UBS; Waitrose; the trustees of The Stables submitted responses to the consultation.

Of the public sector agencies consulted Transport for London provided a response.

Online responses and feedback forms:

Table 1, at the back of this section, provides a summary of the responses received. The top ten issues are as follows:

1. Retention of market in Chipping Barnet.
2. Cost of parking deters people from visiting the town centre.
3. The Market offer (i.e. number of stalls, range of goods sold) should be improved.
4. The current market site should be improved in the short term while its long term future is resolved.
5. The connection between the Market and the Spires should be improved.
6. The method of payment for parking deters people from visiting the town centre.
7. The Spires should not be open at night.
8. The TA site should be a mixed residential development with different unit types to meet the needs of the community.
9. The bus stands on Stapylton Road should be moved.
10. The TA site should not be a supermarket.

The responses provided on the questionnaires demonstrated a general agreement with the four development principles. There was very strong support for the retention and enhancement (both in the short and long term) of a market in Chipping Barnet.

The impact of increases in the cost of parking and the change to payment by mobile phone were both highlighted as having a significant impact on visitors to the town centre. However, this is not an issue that can be addressed in a Planning Framework.

Responses from Amenity Bodies/landowners and Public sector agencies:

Table 2, at the back of this section provides a summary of the comments received and a formal response.

Table 1: Online responses and feedback forms

| Issue | Respondents |
|--|--------------------|
| Parking | |
| Restrictions | 3 |
| Cost | 35 |
| Problems with method of payment | 17 |
| Additional parking needed | 5 |
| Market | |
| Refurbishment in short term – improve surface/remove hoardings | 25 |
| Retention of market | 46 |
| Provision of farmers market | 8 |
| Improve Market offer | 25 |
| Improve visibility | 11 |
| Covered market | 9 |
| Improved Connectivity | |
| Hoppa buses from High Barnet station | 3 |
| Improve connection between the market and the Spires | 20 |
| Move the Bus stands on Stapylton Road | 12 |
| Improve public transport links to the area | 2 |
| The Spires | |
| Provide small units for local businesses | 5 |
| Retain traditional design/courtyards | 8 |
| Retain bandstand | 4 |
| Remove bandstand | 3 |
| Improve High Street entrance | 2 |
| Create additional entrances | 1 |
| Should not open at night | 12 |
| Should be open at night | 3 |
| More choice of shops | 7 |
| Loss of Fern Room and Ipop | 4 |
| TA Centre | |
| Housing and community facilities | 2 |
| Community/educational use | 5 |
| Mixed residential development with different unit types | 12 |
| Retirement development | 3 |
| No flats | 4 |
| No supermarket | 11 |
| Retain the TA centre | 2 |
| The High Street | |
| Too many charity shops | 8 |
| Retain traditional shop fronts | 1 |
| Other Sites | |
| Retain Stapylton Road as a car park | 1 |
| Other | |
| Litter/general appearance | 7 |
| Narrow pavements | 5 |
| Improve cycling facilities | 1 |
| More responsive traffic lights for pedestrian crossing | 3 |
| Make High street one way and reduce speed to 20mph | 4 |
| Retention of historic buildings | 3 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Retention/improvement of green areas | 3 |
| Expand retail triangle to touch Hadley Common | 1 |
| Maximise history/heritage | 6 |
| Reduce business rates/rents | 8 |
| Improved signage | 4 |
| Impact on infrastructure including schools if there is additional housing | 3 |
| Loss of two local charities by sale of site to the Spires | 2 |
| Have community activities/events | 1 |
| Enhance access/facilities for the disabled/visually impaired | 2 |
| Area of study should be widened | 1 |

Table 2: Responses from Amenity Bodies/landowners and Public sector agencies:

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Cllr John Hart | <p>Goods offered by small producers at markets 'spread' the economy outwards.</p> <p>Markets add to the 'joie de vivre' of town centres.</p> <p>From markets sometimes large business grows.</p> <p>Markets are impervious to the kind of internet/electronic marketing that is sapping traditional retail shopping.</p> | The Planning Framework emphasis the importance of the Market as a potential catalyst for improving the area covered by the framework. | Document changed to place greater emphasis on the importance of the Market. |
| Cllr David Longstaff | Development of retail triangle with reborn Market and enhance Spires is vital. | Noted | No change |
| | TA should be residential if ever sold. | The Planning Framework (para 6.6.6) advocates that should the TA centre come forward then the site should be used for residential purposes. | No change |
| | Parking in the area needs to be reviewed. | A review of parking is not deliverable through a Planning Framework. | No change |
| The Rt. Hon. Theresa Villiers MP | Broadly welcomes the draft framework which contains a useful analysis of the relevant issues and sets out some sensible proposals for improving and enhancing the town centre. | The Council welcomes this support. | No Change |
| | The best results will be achieved by a collaborative approach with key stakeholders. | Noted | Section 9 amended to refer to the aspiration to work collaboratively with key stakeholders. |
| | Supportive of the Barnet Society's response in particular the production of an over- | The Planning Framework (para 8.2.3) makes reference to the | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|-----------|---|---|---|
| | arching masterplan would be the most effective way to ensure proposals are considered as a whole rather than on a piecemeal basis. | need for either site wide masterplan or a series of site specific planning briefs to deliver a cohesive development. | |
| | It is vital that any future for the town centre includes a permanent site for the market. | This is recognised throughout the document | Document changed to place greater emphasis on the importance of the Market. |
| | The requirement to run a stall market must be maintained by any future planning consents. | The Planning Framework emphasis the need to maintain a market in Chipping Barnet. | No change but the matter should be considered more fully at detailed planning application stage |
| | Key is the inter-connection between the Market, the Spires and the High Street by enhancing this everyone will benefit. Supportive of the concept of a 'retail triangle'. | Noted | No change |
| | Strongly supportive of making the market more visible and linking it with both the Spires and the High Street. | Noted | No change |
| | The current site should be resurfaced and the hoardings removed as a matter of urgency. | Agree | The Planning Framework has been amended to make reference to the need for some short to medium term measures to enhance the current market offer. |
| | The use of the area to the back of the Spires (around the bandstand) and the large areas of staff parking could be better used. | Noted | Section 6.4 of the Planning Framework has been amended to highlight potential improvements to the public realm around the rear of the Spires. |
| | Residential use is more appropriate than retail for the TA site and this should be modestly sized family housing. | The Planning Framework (para 6.6.6) advocates that should the TA centre come forward then the site should be used for residential | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|--------------------|---|---|---|
| | | purposes. | |
| | Concern that the proposals for an evening economy could lead to anti-social behaviour. | Noted | Document amended to remove references to the opening of The Spires in the evening. |
| | Supports enhancements to the public realm and in particular 'decluttering'. | Noted | Section 6.4 of the Planning Framework has been amended to highlight potential improvements to the public realm. |
| The Barnet Society | Welcome the draft and eager for it to be adopted. | The Council welcomes this support. | No change |
| | Concern that there isn't a wider strategy for the whole of the Town Centre as had begun to be worked up by the Chipping Barnet Town Centre Strategy Board | Noted | No change |
| | The requirement for a masterplan for the whole site, including peripheral sites should be strengthened. | The Planning Framework (para 8.2.3) makes reference to the need for either site wide masterplan or a series of site specific planning briefs to deliver a cohesive development. | No change |
| | The requirement to re-provide Barnet Market or space for it needs to be strengthened. | Agreed | Document changed to place greater emphasis on the importance of the Market. |
| | Number of specific amendments and corrections. | Agreed | The Planning framework has been amended to include these changes |
| | Document should be adapted so that further planning briefs for individual sites are not necessary as resources are not available to do this work. Suggest that the document needs the addition of a further section to set out urban design principles for the development of the three sites and the inclusion of clear diagrams to illustrate | The Council does not have the resource given the current timescales to amend the document to include this information. | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|------------------------------|---|--|---|
| | the points. | | |
| Barnet Residents Association | Support document as gives a clear direction as to what is trying to be achieved with key sites but feel it could be expanded to look at these sites in the context of the wider town centre. | A considerable amount of research has already been undertaken into the issues and opportunities for the town centre, both within the Council and by external bodies. This work has highlighted a development opportunity that exists around the Spires Shopping Centre/Market Site/Territorial Army (TA) centre that if pro-actively managed could provide the potential to initiate and support the rejuvenation of the wider town centre. The Planning Framework therefore focuses on this area. | No change |
| | Concern over the decline of comparison shopping in the town centre and the knock on effect that this is having on convenience shopping. Recognition that the Spires needs to provide units that retailers want, to attract them back into the centre and reverse the current decline. | Any proposals for new/additional retail floorspace would need to accord with the adopted Development Plan. Policy CS6 – Promoting Barnet's town centres advocates the distribution of retail growth to meet the capacity for an additional 2,200sqm of convenience floorspace in North Finchley and Edgware and support additional comparison goods provision in Edgware, North Finchley and Chipping Barnet. Para 5.5.2 makes reference to this policy. Policy DM11 – Development | Section 5 of the planning framework has been amended to strengthen the reference to the policies in the Development Plan. |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | Principles in the town centres advocates that new development will be expected to provide a mix of unit sizes. | |
| | Number of specific amendments and corrections. | Agreed | The Planning framework has been amended to include these changes |
| Hadley Residents Association | Concern that the present draft framework cannot be assessed against a vision for the wider context because of the absence of a wider town centre strategy. | The purpose of the Planning Framework is to pro-actively consider a development opportunity that exists around the Spires Shopping Centre/Market Site/TA centre. The Framework has been compiled in the context of work done on the wider town centre by the Council and other external bodies. | No change |
| | Document needs editing as there is a lot of repetition and duplication. | Agreed | The Planning framework has been amended to address this issue |
| | More detail on landownership would be useful (para 5.4). | This information is not available to the Council and therefore can not be included in the document. | No change |
| | A previous document in July 2011 included embryonic diagram plans. It would be helpful if these could be developed to illustrate preferred solutions for parking, pedestrian connections, open public space etc. | The Council does not have the resource given the current timescales to amend the document to include this information. | No change |
| | In taking framework forward urge the Council to work with key stakeholders either by reviving the Strategy Board or encouraging the formation of a neighbourhood forum as provided under the Localism Act. | Noted | Section 9 amended to refer to the aspiration to work collaboratively with key stakeholders. |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| Friends of Barnet Market | Clear from the work that they do that Barnet residents love their market. Although document covers a number of sites they are only commenting on the market. | The Council welcomes this support. | No change |
| | Welcome the framework and its recognition of the historic nature of the market and the future potential that a market could have for the wider area. | The Council welcomes this support. | No change |
| | Endorse the creation of a retail triangle and improving the visibility of the market. | Noted | No change |
| | Request that a specific mention be made of the current state of the market. | Agree | The Planning Framework has been amended to make reference to the need for some short to medium term measures to enhance the current market offer. |
| | Future planning consents for the site should require the provision of a stall market. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully at detailed planning application stage. |
| | The Council should work towards publishing a non-statutory planning brief for the market site at the earliest opportunity. | The Council is looking at a number of options for more detailed work on sites. It will work in partnership with key stakeholders and the community in identifying the right choices for Chipping Barnet. This could include individual planning briefs. | No change |
| Barnet Borough Arts Council | The Market should be more visible and linked to the town centre. | Noted | Framework has been amended to strengthen this objective in light of the results of consultation. |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|-----------|---|---|--|
| | The space used by the market could be used for other events outside of market days. | Agree | No change but the matter should be considered more fully at detailed planning application stage. |
| | A new hotel would enable visitors to explore local history and could be located on the TA site along with housing. This would allow for the development of history and literary festivals which would attract visitors. | London Plan policy 4.5 states that development should contribute towards achieving a strategic target of 40,000 net additional hotel bedrooms by 2031. It states that new visitor accommodation should be in appropriate locations and where it is outside the Central Activity Zone, should be focused in town centres, where there is good public transport to central London and international and national transport termini. | No change but the matter should be considered more fully either when a detailed planning brief is compiled for the site or at detailed planning application stage. |
| | There is enormous potential around the Battle of Barnet which is the only battlefield accessible to central London by tube. | The purpose of the framework is to consider opportunities around the framework area, the battlefield falls outside of this area. | No change |
| | A heritage trail should be visible from High Barnet tube through and round the town centre and Hadley Green. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully when any new signage is proposed for the town centre. |
| | There is a need for small workshops with affordable rents which may be used by artists and craftsmen. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully either when a detailed planning brief is compiled for the site or at detailed planning application stage. |
| | Creative industries are one of the fastest growth areas in the country and in Barnet could maximise on this with the links with Barnet College. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully at detailed planning application stage. |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|---|--|---|--|
| | The long term development of Barnet Museum and The Bull theatre which have the potential to pull in visitors should be encouraged. | Noted | No change |
| | The potential for development of the museum and arts centre should be recognised and encouraged as part of the overall strategy of improving the quality of life in High Barnet, providing a cultural quarter in conjunction with Barnet College and in the process generating business opportunities. | The purpose of the framework is to consider opportunities around the framework area, this sites fall outside the framework area. | No change |
| Barton Willmore on behalf of Waitrose Ltd | Waitrose supports the Town Centre strategy but is concerned that the framework does not adequately adopt a strict enough town centre first approach and requests that reference is made to this in accordance with the NPPF is made. | In order for a planning strategy to be considered sound and relevant it needs to be in accordance with national guidance and the development plan for the area. Section 5 of the framework considers the planning policy framework. | Section 5 of the planning framework has been amended to strengthen the reference to the NPPF and the town centres first approach. |
| | Concerned that there is limited guidance on the scale and form of future development. | The purpose of the framework is to set out key development principles which support the potential for future growth while managing anticipated change. | No change but the matter should be considered more fully either when a detailed planning brief is compiled for the site or at detailed planning application stage. |
| | The framework should ensure that any future development proposals seek to protect and enhance the existing role and function of the Centre. | The vision for the framework is to provide a town centre that is economically, commercially and environmentally viable that is a vibrant destination with quality shopping, well designed housing and a high quality sustainable environment that serves the needs of the local community (para | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|---|--|---|---|
| | | 4.1.3) | |
| | The framework should clarify that any major new retail development outside the primary shopping area will be restricted to comparison goods only in accordance with the LDF evidence base and convenience goods floorspace should be focused on the expansion of existing convenience stores within the Primary Shopping Area. | Any proposals for new/additional retail floorspace would need to accord with the adopted Development Plan. Policy CS6 – Promoting Barnet's town centres advocates the distribution of retail growth to meet the capacity for an additional 2,200sqm of convenience floorspace in North Finchley and Edgware and support additional comparison goods provision in Edgware, North Finchley and Chipping Barnet. Para 5.5.2 makes reference to this policy | Section 5 of the planning framework has been amended to strengthen the reference to the policies in the Development Plan. |
| | Concern that the reference to a new anchor store within the Spires could be interpreted as supporting a new foodstore anchor. | The framework makes reference to 'anchor attractions' to encourage footfall | No change |
| | The wording of the Framework should be strengthened to address the threat of speculative supermarket development on the TA site. | Noted | The framework has been amended to reflect the consultation responses aspiration that the TA site should not be a supermarket. |
| | Concerned that the site plan identifies a wider town centre boundary than defined in the Development Management DPD and therefore the document is not in accordance with the emerging Development Plan. | The site plan in Appendix 1 includes the TA centre within the Chipping Barnet Town Centre Boundary whereas the boundary runs along the eastern and southern perimeter of the site. | Map boundary amended. |
| | Request that the document is amended in light of the above comments. | Noted | See above |
| Savills on behalf of UBS Global Asset Management (UK) Ltd | Supports the wider vision to provide a town centre that is economically, commercially and environmentally viable that is a vibrant | The Council welcomes this support. | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|----------------------|---|--|---|
| owners of the Spires | destination with quality shopping, well designed housing and high quality sustainable environment that serves the needs of the local community. | | |
| | Supports the enlargement of the retail offer of the town centre and acknowledges the contribution that the market can make to the overall vitality and viability of Chipping Barnet. | The Council welcomes this support. | No change |
| | The Framework is too prescriptive in terms of the height/massing of buildings and the need to reflect the historic nature of the town centre. The document should be amended to include flexibility to allow for alternative development schemes that are not necessarily in accordance with existing townscape. The current wording could stifle or prohibit innovative design as found elsewhere e.g. Barnet College. | The purpose of the framework is to set out key development principles which support the potential for future growth while managing anticipated change. The matter of detailed design will be considered more fully with either the development of a masterplan or site specific planning briefs. An example of where this has worked successfully to enable an innovative design solution is at Barnet College where the Council in conjunction with college drew up a planning brief to inform the redevelopment of the site. | No change |
| | The framework should acknowledge that the Spires acts as key anchor for the town centre as a whole and it is an appropriate location to accommodate an increase in development mass. | The framework acknowledges in para 2.1.5 that the focus of the centre is the Spires shopping centre. The NPPF adopts a town centre first approach for retail development. | Section 5 of the planning framework has been amended to strengthen the reference to the NPPF and the town centres first approach. |
| | In order to create the higher levels of footfall envisaged by the Framework it is important to enhance the overall attraction | Noted | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|-----------|---|--|--|
| | of the Spires. | | |
| | UBS supports the use of the TA centre for residential and supports the approach that this is not a suitable location for retail. The framework needs to make reference to the fact that it is outside the core and the harm that would result to the town centre if this site were to be used for retail. | Noted | The framework has been amended to include a reference to the TA centre does not fall within the Primary Retail frontage. |
| | Request that the reference to limited extensions be replaced with extensions. | Agreed | Amend reference |
| | Advises that the opening of the Spires at night would create a series of wider management and land use considerations which would need further thought. | Noted | The framework has been amended to delete the reference to the Spires opening in the evening. |
| | Acknowledges that the centre is inward facing but points out that this is a characteristic of most centres and should be acknowledged by the framework. | Policy DM11 of the Development Management DPD advocates that new retail development should avoid an inward looking layout, maintain a street frontage and provide suitable and convenient linkages for shoppers to access other town centres. The framework is therefore considered to reflect emerging policy | No change |
| | Acknowledges that there is limited accessibility between the Spires and the rest of the town centre which could be improved. | Noted | No change |
| | However, do not consider that enhancing the offer at the Spires is a threat to the wider town centre given the role that it plays in the area. | The Spires is an inward facing centre with limited linkages to the surrounding town centre. If the offer at the Spires is enhanced so that shoppers can get everything they need within the centre this will limit the opportunities for | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|-----------|---|---|--|
| | | linked trips to the detriment of the wider town centre. This may be addressed by enhancing permeability and linkages as advocated by the framework. | |
| | The opportunities for Barnet Market should include an explicit reference to the potential benefits for the market of an extension to the Spires to create a more attractive retail core. | The purpose of the framework is to set out key development principles. The potential benefits of linkages between Barnet Market and the Spires are referred to throughout the framework. | No change but the matter should be considered more fully either when a detailed planning brief is compiled for the site or at detailed planning application stage. |
| | UBS consider it critical that the framework acknowledges that development can come forward as individual proposals provided that such schemes accord with the Development Principles and overarching objectives of the framework. | The purpose of the framework is to develop a comprehensive approach to development within the framework area to ensure a high quality of design; an integrated layout; the delivery of the development principles and that opportunities provided by the adjacencies of the three key sites are maximised. The framework acknowledges that this could be done either through the delivery of a site wide master plan or the development of site specific planning briefs. | No change |
| | Planning obligations should include a reference to viability and the benefits that schemes would have in delivering the aims of the framework. | The NPPF advocates that where planning obligations are being sought the LPA should take account of changes to market conditions over time and where appropriate be sufficiently flexible to prevent planned development being stalled. Section 5 of the framework makes reference to the | No change |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | need for future development to accord with the NPPF. | |
| Savills on behalf of the Hanover Housing Trust owners of St Martha's school on Union Street | Supports the principles of the framework and in particular that commercial and residential needs should be encouraged to create a sustainable town centre and on that basis consider that St Martha's School site should be included in the framework and considered as a development site. | St Martha's School whilst within the town centre is not located within the area covered by the Planning Framework which focuses on the potential created by the Spires/Market/TA centre it is not considered appropriate to extend the framework area to include this site. | No change |
| Transport for London | Supports the principal to improve linkages, enhance pedestrian connections and improve bus services and facilities. | The Council welcomes this support. | No change |
| | Cumulative impact assessments should be carried out for individual development to comply with London Plan Policy 6.3. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully at detailed planning application stage. |
| | Servicing facilities should be provided off site where possible. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully at detailed planning application stage. |
| | TfL have a major concern regarding the proposed relocation of the existing bus layover area in Stapylton Road as this would have a major impact to bus operation in the area any changes need to be done in consultation with TfL. | Noted | TfL will be consulted on any site specific planning briefs or detailed planning applications that affect the bus layover area. |
| | A way-finding strategy should be developed for the town centre as well as routes between the tube and the town centre. | Noted | No change but the matter should be considered more fully either at detailed planning application stage or when compiling site specific planning briefs. |
| | The document currently does not mention | Noted | Para 6.5 has been amended to |

| Consultee | Summary of representation | Council's Response | Councils Recommendation |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| | cycling. Adequate cycle infrastructure and facilities should be provided to encourage cycling. | | include reference to improvements to cycling facilities. |
| David Ellis on behalf of the Stables | An alternative option for the Stables comprising of retail, residential, community uses, landscape and public realm. | Mr Ellis is in dialogue with UBS and their consultants who will be taking forward this site over his alternative proposals. | No change but the detail of how this area should come forward should be considered when compiling site specific planning briefs. |

Draft Planning Framework

The Spires Shopping Centre, Market Site and Territorial Army Centre

Chipping Barnet



Contents

| | | | |
|--|-----------|--|-----------|
| 1. What is a Planning Framework? | 4 | 9. Conclusions and way forward | 20 |
| 2. Corporate Context | 5 | 10. Appendix 1 – Site Plan | 21 |
| 3. Introduction | 7 | 10.1. Planning Framework | 21 |
| 4. How can this be delivered? | 8 | 11. Appendix 2 – Barnet’s Planning Policy Framework | 22 |
| 5. Planning Framework Context | 9 | | |
| 5.1. Location | 9 | | |
| 5.2. History of the area | 9 | | |
| 5.3. Existing site characteristics | 10 | | |
| 5.4. Landownership | 11 | | |
| 5.5. Planning Policy Framework | 11 | | |
| 6. Development principles | 12 | | |
| 6.2. Development principle 1 | 12 | | |
| 6.3. Development principle 2 | 12 | | |
| 6.4. Development principle 3 | 12 | | |
| 6.5. Development principle 4 | 12 | | |
| 6.6. Achieving the development principles | 13 | | |
| 7. Key sites | 14 | | |
| 7.2. The Spires | 15 | | |
| 7.3. Barnet Market site | 16 | | |
| 7.4. The Territorial Army site | 17 | | |
| 7.5. Smaller sites | 18 | | |
| 8. Delivery | 19 | | |
| 8.2. Controlling development through the planning process (plan making and development management) | 19 | | |
| 8.3. When will development be delivered? | 19 | | |
| 8.4. How will the impacts of development be managed? | 19 | | |

1. What is a Planning Framework?

1.1. A planning framework is an outline of the vision for the planning of an area indicating the broad principles which should be followed in its development.

- 1.1.1. Planning frameworks and briefs form the stepping stone between the provisions of the adopted development plan (comprising the emerging Local Plan and the London Plan) and the requirements of a planning application. The process of preparing and implementing a planning framework provides a mechanism for collecting information about a site and investigating and evaluating different interests in it. They are written to encourage development and give clear guidance to developers. They include such issues as linkages to the surrounding area as well as acceptable uses, types of buildings and spaces and density of development within the area itself. They also outline the policy framework that schemes would need to adhere to.
- 1.1.2. Planning frameworks can perform a number of functions such as promoting a site for development, interpreting and supplementing existing development plan policies or addressing a particular site constraint or opportunity.
- 1.1.3. A planning framework will form a material consideration when considering any future planning applications for the area it covers.

2. Corporate Context

2.1. Barnet has the most town centres in London.

- 2.1.1. There are 20 major, district and local centres in Barnet which form the economic, civic, leisure and transport hubs of Barnet and provide a good indicator of the economic, environmental and social health of the borough. Maintaining the vitality and viability of these centres is a priority for the Council. Within the town centre hierarchy Chipping Barnet is a district centre. Such centres have traditionally provided convenience goods and services for more local communities.
- 2.1.2. Throughout Britain town centres have been particularly badly hit by the recession. Well known retailers such as Woolworths, Borders, MFI, Habitat and Threshers have gone into administration. Bank and building society branches have been shut as consolidation takes place; estate agents have closed as housing market activity has collapsed and pubs and restaurants have shut as consumers have cut back. This combined with the increase in the on-line retail market and the dominance of the major supermarkets, particularly through their local/metro formats, has had a major impact on the high street with vacancy rates increasing substantially.
- 2.1.3. The Council's strategy for town centres is to support the existing hierarchy of provision; to locate major new retail and leisure facilities within the existing Major and District Town Centres; to promote the vitality and viability of Major and District Town centres by protecting a core of retail uses, encouraging diversity including the evening economy; to manage change in the smaller shopping centres and parades so that they have a viable future; improving the environment, maintaining low vacancy rates and implementing regeneration and town centre strategies. The 2008 Suburban Town Centre Strategy identified priority town centres where more detailed planning frameworks will support the potential for future growth and help to manage anticipated change. The priority town centres are Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley.
- 2.1.4. In 2009 Chipping Barnet was one of the joint leaders in Experian's league of the most adversely affected UK high streets. While its vacancy rate of 13% was only a little above the national average, it was among the centres to have lost the most retailers to administration, the majority of these being small, independent retailers located around the southern end of the high street.
- 2.1.5. Barnet's Town Centres Floorspace Needs Assessment (TCFNA) published in 2009 and updated in 2010 identified Chipping Barnet as a large centre which offers a good range of comparison, convenience and service goods provision from a mix of multiple and independent retailers. The focus of the centre is the Spires Shopping Centre which provides a modern yet sympathetically designed centre, largely occupied by multiple high street retailers and anchored by a 2,050sqm Waitrose food store.
- 2.1.6. Key opportunities in Chipping Barnet for enhancement in the comparison retail offer were identified in the TCFNA. The 2010 update highlighted that there is a reasonable level of convenience capacity arising in Chipping Barnet despite new commitments in the town centre (Tesco Express and Sainsbury's Local). The update also highlighted that there is also a modest capacity for comparison goods arising in Chipping Barnet.
- 2.1.7. Local evidence gathering has highlighted a development opportunity that exists around the Spires Shopping Centre/Barnet Market Site/Territorial Army (TA) centre that if managed pro-actively could provide the potential to initiate and support the rejuvenation of the wider town centre.

2.1.8. The Council consider that the most appropriate way to manage this opportunity is to draw up an overarching planning framework which sets out the key policy and development issues affecting this area which can then, where necessary, be developed further by the evolution of site specific planning briefs.



3. Introduction

3.1. Chipping Barnet, also known as High Barnet, is a historical town of medieval origin, with two conservation areas and a number of listed buildings.

3.1.1. The Spires Shopping centre is located in the town centre, which includes a number of high street names and a Waitrose supermarket. Independent shops, cafés and bars are located on the High Street which ends at the junction with Meadway. Chipping Barnet is known historically for its market, which has existed in various forms since the 12th Century and is one of the oldest established markets in the Country. Since 1851 it has been located at the northern end of the town centre.

3.1.2. The TA centre is located on the periphery of the town centre where it transits from the busy High Street atmosphere to the more semi-rural and residential environment of Hadley Green and the area of Monken Hadley.

3.1.3. While Chipping Barnet is an established local town centre, it is recognised that its character, appearance and facilities could be enhanced and the area could be more cohesive and interconnected.

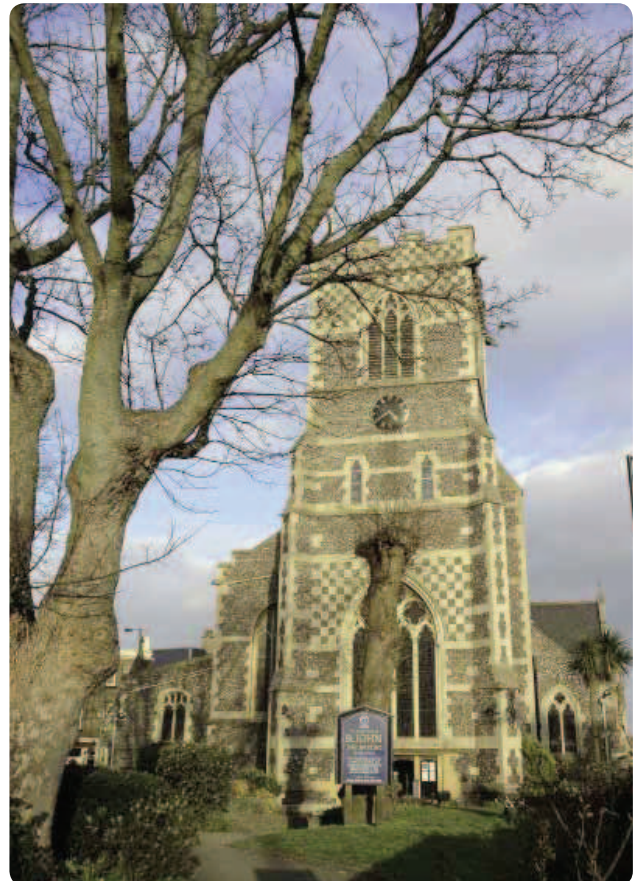
3.1.4. Work commenced on this in Summer 2011 when the Council was successful in bidding for over £400,000 from The Mayor's Outer London Fund (an initiative by the Greater London Authority to improve London's High Streets and their environs).

3.1.5. The funding has been utilised to deliver the following:

- Public Realm Improvements – decluttering, greening of the high street, footway and carriageway repair;
- Re-landscaping of the St John the Baptist Churchyard Garden.;
- Support to the business community.

3.1.6. A partnership of stakeholders including the council and representatives from the local community and businesses, through the High Barnet Town Team, has been established to consider how best to progress this. The work of this group has also highlighted that opportunities exist around the Spires, Barnet Market site and the TA centre that, through a comprehensive approach, would contribute to a better, safer and more cohesive local environment; while bringing a wider range and mix of retail provision and other town centre uses to enhance the long term vitality and viability of the town centre.

3.1.7. The Council is also investigating the junctions of the A1000 with Wood Street and St Albans Road with the aim of delivering further public realm improvements.



4. How can this be delivered?

4.1. Any development within the town centre will be required to deliver the objectives set out in the emerging Core Strategy which underpins the 15 year Local Plan vision for Barnet.

4.1.1. A core objective is to promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity, supporting the continued vitality and viability of 20 town centres, focusing commercial investment in the priority centres which include Chipping Barnet.

4.1.2. The Spires, Barnet Market and the TA centre represent a major development opportunity in the heart of the town centre which, through encouraging appropriate expansion, could enhance the vitality and viability of the area and act as a catalyst for the regeneration of the wider area.

4.1.3. The wider vision for Chipping Barnet is:

“To provide a town centre that is economically, commercially and environmentally viable and is a vibrant destination with quality shopping, well designed housing and a high quality sustainable environment that serves the needs of the local community.”

4.1.4. The main purpose of this planning framework is to provide a detailed mechanism that can deliver this vision by setting out key development principles which support the potential for future growth while managing anticipated change.

The Framework sets out short and long term proposals to achieve this vision which will include:

- respect for and celebration of the town centre’s history;
- enlargement of the retail offer with the re-provision of the historic Barnet Market at its heart;
- provision of a high quality public realm and improved appearance of this part of the town centre and;
- improved transport facilities and services for all road users, including enhanced traffic, pedestrian, cycle and parking management measures.



5. Planning Framework Context

5.1. Location

- 5.1.1. Barnet is one of the largest boroughs in London, situated to the north west of the city; it is bordered by the boroughs of Enfield, Haringey, Camden, Brent, Harrow and Hertsmere (Hertfordshire).
- 5.1.2. Chipping Barnet is in the north of the borough and is reasonably well connected by public transport. The area is served by the Northern Line (High Barnet Tube Station) which is approximately a 10 minute walk from the heart of the town centre. It is also well connected by bus with a number of routes running through the town centre. By road, the A1000, is the central spine which runs north-south through the town centre and is the link to central London and the North Circular road. Wood Street and St Albans Road (A1081) spur off this route. All of the main routes in the town centre experience congestion at peak times which is exacerbated by commuter traffic. More strategically the area is well connected to the M25, providing access to the A1, M1 and the rest of the UK.
- 5.1.3. The accessibility of the site is indicated with the Public Transport Accessibility Level (PTAL). This Transport for London (TfL) rating system measures the accessibility of public transport service available and reflects the proximity of that location to bus, tube and train services. The town centre has a PTAL of 3 to 5, 6 being the highest level of accessibility. The higher PTAL is for the area around High Barnet Tube Station.
- 5.1.4. Location plans showing the location of Chipping Barnet and the area covered by the Planning Framework are contained in Appendix 1.

5.2. History of the area

- 5.2.1. Chipping Barnet began as a settlement around a fork in the road running north out of London (where the High Street currently meets Wood Street). In August 1199 King John granted a charter to the Lord of the Manor for a market to be held once a week. The charter is one of the earliest recorded. By the early 14th Century

the town was called Chepyng Barnet, confirming that it had become known as a successful market town (chepyng, cieping or chippen meaning 'of the market').

- 5.2.2. A second market charter was issued by Queen Elizabeth I in 1588 and by the end of the 16th Century Barnet was London's main meat market (before the development of Smithfields). Chipping Barnet was also known as High Barnet by the 17th Century and has continued to be known by both names ever since.
- 5.2.3. The railway station was first opened in 1872 which led to the Victorians developing new buildings in the centre of Chipping Barnet. Between the first and second world wars, new housing was built along the southern and eastern slopes of Barnet Hill and along to New Barnet.
- 5.2.4. In the 1980's the Spires Shopping Centre was developed in the heart of the town. This involved the demolition of the former Methodist Church on the High Street (hence the name), building Wesley Hall and Chipping Barnet Library and extending Stapylton Road to meet St Albans Road.
- 5.2.5. The TA drill hall is on the site of what was a plant nursery from 1729 to 1937. Originally run by a family called Emmerton it was subsequently owned by a family called Cutbush. In 1828 a new road was built from the top of Barnet High Street to St Albans. A new Anglican church was built along the St Albans Road in 1845, called Christ Church. By 1881, Salisbury, Strafford, Alston, and Stapylton roads were laid out.
- 5.2.6. The TA centre is the home of 240 Transport Squadron which is part of 151 (London) Transport Regiment, London's only transport regiment which can trace its history back to the formation of the royal wagon train in Croydon in 1801.

5.3. Existing site characteristics

Physical Characteristics

- 5.3.1. This framework covers the area of the Spires Shopping Centre, present Market site and TA centre and includes various associated open spaces and the public realm. It therefore considers the broader context rather than just the individual sites.
- 5.3.2. The street layout in Chipping Barnet generally follows a linear form with relatively well connected streets, which stem from the main primary routes through the area (Wood Street and the High Street). Barnet High Street is defined by Victorian terraces and includes the

- 5.3.3. The main housing types in Chipping Barnet are either detached (often large, individually designed properties) or Victorian terraced houses. Closer to the town centre the density increases.
- 5.3.4. This aerial map clearly shows the surrounding context of residential terrace housing and street grid layouts. The High Street shows the tight grain of predominantly Victorian townscape which reflects the original medieval burgage plots which originally lined the main route. The Spires shows a departure from the scale, massing and grain of surrounding townscape through the development of the shopping centre and associated car park.



modern shopping centre. The predominant use is residential interspersed with large green and open spaces, with golf courses to the north and King George's Field, Monken Hadley Common to the east and Whiting's Hill open space and fields in the west. In the south there are health and education uses at Barnet General Hospital and Barnet College.

Social characteristics

- 5.3.5. Chipping Barnet has the second smallest population (13,847) in the borough. The ward also has, at 8.7%, the second highest proportion of people aged 75 and above. The majority of residents were born in England (84.4%) and Chipping Barnet has the largest

proportion of residents, of any ward in the borough, who classify themselves as White British. Chipping Barnet has the highest per cent of its workforce in the Lower Managerial, Professional and Intermediate socio-economic class. Over 90% of the property in the ward is owner occupied.

5.3.6. Chipping Barnet Town Centre also serves the adjoining ward of Underhill.

Commercial Characteristics

5.3.7. Vacancy rates are seen as a good indicator of the recession. For consumers, vacancy rates reduce the choice of stores, lessening the experience and enjoyment of shopping. For retailers they reduce the number of shoppers visiting and can also deter investment in new retail space or improving existing sites due to the likely rate of return.

5.3.8. There have been a number of significant new units appear in the town centre over the period 2008-2010. Both Tesco and Sainsburys have opened smaller 'local' supermarkets replacing a Marks and Spencer Food and a Chinese restaurant. Another addition to the High Street is the London Gold Factory, the first pawnbroker in Chipping Barnet. John Pollock outdoor shop has been replaced by a local charity shop.

5.4. Landownership

5.4.1. The area covered by the framework falls under a number of separate land ownerships. At the present time these include the Ministry of Defence (the TA centre); the Council (Stapylton Road Car Park and a number of other small sites); and UBS (the owners of the Spires and Barnet Market). The aim of the planning framework is to encourage a collaborative approach between landowners in order to achieve a comprehensive approach to development within the area.

5.5. Planning Policy Framework

5.5.1. In order for a planning framework to be considered sound and relevant it needs to be in accordance with national guidance and the

development plan for the area unless, material considerations indicate otherwise.

5.5.2. national guidance is contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (March 2012) which advocates a town centre first approach to retail development.

5.5.3. Barnet's development plan comprises the London Plan (July 2011); the saved policies of the adopted Unitary Development Plan (May 2006) and the emerging Core Strategy and Development Management Policies documents that form the Local Plan and are due to replace the UDP in autumn 2012. Barnet's priorities for its town centres are set out in the Core Strategy (Policy CS6 - promoting Barnet's Town centres). The Development Management Policies document sets out more detailed policies for implementing the Core Strategy in particular DM11 Development Principles for Barnet's Town Centres.

5.5.4. Both the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies documents have been found sound, legally compliant and capable of adoption following an Examination in Public. The documents are expected to be formally adopted in September 2012. The LDF is now a material consideration when drafting other policy documents.

5.5.5. A list of the most relevant national, regional and local planning guidance documents is set out in Appendix 2.



6. Development principles

6.1. To enable the delivery of the vision for this area and in the context of national, regional and local policy a series of development principles have been established.

6.2. Development principle 1

6.2.1. Respect for and celebration of the town centre's history, to be delivered through:

- Ensuring that development is sensitive to the variations in character across the town centre from the conservation area boundary to the heart of the town centre and reflecting this in the form and density of development proposed.
- Ensuring the height/massing of any new buildings respects the existing townscape which is predominantly two and three storey in scale.
- Ensuring that street facing retail frontages reflect the historic nature and character of the town centre.

6.3. Development principle 2

6.3.1. Enlargement of the retail offer with the re-provision of the historic Barnet Market at its heart, to be delivered through:

- Ensuring high quality design to maximise the opportunities presented by any development, with new development in accordance with relevant national guidance such as Building for Life and By Design.
- Ensuring that retail development is outward rather than inward facing to maximise linkages with other parts of the town centre and promote active frontages.
- Ensuring that opportunities provided by brownfield/windfall sites are maximised.
- Ensuring a future for Barnet Market, either in its current location with enhanced linkages and improved visibility or on a new site within the town centre.
- Ensuring that new retail development includes active frontages, where

appropriate, to the surrounding streets as well as within the Spires to maximise linkages to other parts of the town centre.

6.4. Development principle 3

6.4.1. Provision of a high quality public realm and improved appearance of this part of the town centre in particular the area to the rear of the Spires, to be delivered through:

- Ensuring a vibrant and attractive public realm.

6.5. Development principle 4

6.5.1. Improved transport facilities and services for all road users including, in particular, enhanced traffic and parking management measures:

- Providing effective mitigation measures to deal with increased travel demand arising from new development.
- Enhancing permeability of the area by connecting any new development into the surrounding area with new streets and footways.
- Enhancing existing pedestrian connections to improve access and footfall to existing facilities.
- Utilising and where appropriate improving existing bus passenger services and facilities in the area to encourage sustainable modes of travel.
- Ensuring that there are sufficient parking and servicing facilities provided both on and off street.
- Enhancing access by improving facilities for cyclists.

6.6. Achieving the development principles

6.6.1. It is envisaged that the development principles will be delivered in the following ways:

6.6.2. Consolidation of the Town Centre:

Expanding development volume within the main, central retail area of the town centre will help achieve a ‘critical mass’ of development that will generate a sufficient level of activity to be financially viable. However, it is critical that this is achieved without harming the character of the area, impacting on Chipping Barnet’s local distinctiveness or damaging the vitality and viability of either the wider town centre or those elsewhere in the borough.

6.6.3. Creation of a ‘Retail Triangle’:

Improving access will bring higher footfalls to businesses and pedestrian movement to the quieter areas surrounding the Spires. This will be achieved by locating major attractors such as key retail units, transport and car parking facilities, new housing and the Market around the edges of the centre to ensure even distribution of activity. Any proposed alteration or development within the Framework area should facilitate the creation of a ‘retail triangle’ between the Spires/Barnet Market/the High Street to enhance permeability and linkages between these areas.

The Barnet Market site is located to the rear of the High Street and the Spires Shopping centre and has become isolated from the rest of the town centre requiring users to make a dedicated trip to visit it. By enhancing access and improving visibility or relocating this use closer to the existing retail uses there is an opportunity for a well supported community asset to be revitalised and enhanced.

6.6.4. Enhancing the vitality and viability of the town centre:

An appropriate mix of land uses that generate and attract activity at different times and days of the week in an area is key to achieving vitality. One of the problems in this part of Chipping

Barnet is that it is a largely retail dominated area which becomes very quiet in the evening. .

6.6.5. All three of these aims could be addressed by:

- enhancing and expanding the offer provided by the Spires through opening up its current frontage and improving pedestrian linkages through the centre;
- exploring opportunities to incorporate Barnet Market into the Spires thereby creating a retail triangle between the High Street/the Spires and Barnet Market and enhancing access and visibility of all three retail offers;
- improving the layout of units to encourage take up by established retailers thereby providing further anchor attractions to encourage footfall to this part of the centre;

6.6.6. Residential development on the TA Centre site:

The introduction of new residential development will help strengthen the vitality and viability of the town centre. Should the TA Centre come forward for development it is considered that this site would provide such an opportunity. The redevelopment of this site will need to be the subject of a further detailed planning brief and should reflect the surrounding established residential grain.

The TA site does not fall within the town centre boundary and it is therefore considered that it would not be an appropriate location for retail use/extension of the existing secondary retail frontage.

7. Key sites

7.1. The following section provides a general analysis and summary of the problems and needs affecting the individual sites and the opportunities and threats which present themselves.

These have been derived from

- The Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment undertaken by GVA Grimley in 2009 with 2010 update;
- analysis of Chipping Barnet town centre wide issues and opportunities;
- consultation carried out with key stakeholders.



7.2. The Spires

Strengths

- The Spires is a shopping centre which comprises over 8,000 sqm of retail floorspace with a strong ‘anchor’ store in the form of a 2,050sqm Waitrose supermarket.
- A 440 space multi storey car park to meet it and the wider town centre’s needs which supplements the Council run car parks and on street pay and display bays.
- A large variety of shops.
- Low vacancy rates.
- High quality public realm including a number of pleasant public squares.
- Close proximity to good public transport links.

Weaknesses

- Many elements are inward facing and provide inactive frontages to the surrounding streets.
- Poor connectivity to the surrounding town centre with one exit onto the High Street and one onto Stapylton Road.
- Site is closed at night.
- High Street entrance is low key, meaning that it is not obviously a shopping centre to those passing through the town centre.
- Layout is inefficient with areas of wasted space around the building, particularly in terms of service areas/employee parking areas.
- Recent developments in retail provision suggest that many larger multiples require larger retail footprints than those currently available at the Spires.
- Underutilised upper floor.

Opportunities

- Approximately 70,000 weekly visitors to the centre ensure an established customer base for new businesses.
- Improving connections with the High Street and Barnet Market by enhancing/strengthening existing access points and creating new ones.
- Enabling internal reconfiguration/limited extensions to create larger units to attract a wider range of High Street stores; providing the space needed for a comparison goods retailer and/or a new anchor store.
- Linking Barnet Market with the Spires to create a retail triangle between the High Street/the Spires and Barnet Market thereby enhancing opportunities for all three providers.

Threats

- By expanding floorspace at the Spires this limits opportunities to enhance the retail ‘offer’ in other town centres and could adversely impact on the vitality and viability of other centres by drawing trade away from them.
- By increasing pedestrian and vehicular traffic this could strain further existing infrastructure which could, in-turn, deter visitors to the town centre. Any proposals would therefore need to assess fully their impact.
- By enhancing the ‘offer’ at the Spires there is the possibility that shoppers will not make use of the High Street thereby not maximising the opportunity of linked trips and long term affecting the viability and vitality of the rest of the town centre.

7.3. Barnet Market site

Strengths

- Historic and popular market that is well established within the town centre.
- Existing planning consent for redevelopment of the site which includes the provision of space for the market.
- Strong local support for improvements to Barnet Market.

Weaknesses

- Low quality provision – site is in poor condition particularly the surface which discourages both older less mobile shoppers and younger shoppers with pushchairs.
- Site is hidden at the back of the existing High Street on the edge of the town centre, minimising the opportunities for ‘impulse’ visits.
- Despite its ‘history’ Barnet Market does not have a strong profile in the town centre.
- Low quality ‘offer’ – perceived to offer lower discount priced goods
- Site is hidden behind low quality hoardings which reduce visibility and limit impulse visits.



Opportunities

- Markets are currently benefiting from resurgence in popularity through the Farmers Market concept.
- The site is in the same ownership as the Spires which could enable a comprehensive masterplan to be prepared for the area.
- Potential to incorporate/link the current Market site into the Spires thereby enhancing accessibility and visibility and the potential benefit from linked and impulse trips.
- Physical improvements to the Market site would lead to an enhanced visitor experience which is more likely to generate return trips and has the potential to make Chipping Barnet a destination shopping centre with people visiting specifically to use the Market.
- Provision of a properly serviced site with sufficient storage would help retain/encourage new traders.
- Improved visibility of Barnet Market through opening up the site, enhanced signage etc.
- Refurbishment of the current Market site in the short term by improving surface/removing hoardings would help enhance accessibility and therefore viability while a longer term proposal is worked up.
- Move to a location elsewhere within the Town Centre where it would be more accessible

Threats

- Overdevelopment of the existing site by other uses which could compromise or reduce the viability of the Market.
- A twice monthly Farmers Market has been established in the Spires outside Waitrose.
- Competition from the existing High Street and out of town centre supermarkets.
- Uncertainty over its future.
- Re-provision which is tokenistic which could threaten the long term survival of the market.
- Delays to the implementation of improvements to the site including provision of a suitable surface could threaten the long term future of the market as stallholders may leave to go to other markets.

7.4. The Territorial Army site

Strengths

- Located close to the Town Centre and Hadley Green.
- Number of good quality mature trees which help define the character of the site.
- Predominantly surrounded by small scale residential and retail units.

Weaknesses

- Due to current use and the security issues relating to it, it has a 'closed' appearance and is out of character with the street scene and surrounding uses.
- Current site is impermeable and does not link or relate to the surrounding area. In particular there are poor pedestrian connections to the town centre.
- Site only accessible from St Albans Road opposite the junction with Stapylton Road.

Opportunities

- Size, location and characteristics of the site present a valuable development opportunity.
- Improvements to key road junctions can be investigated including Stapylton Road/St Albans Road and St Albans Road/A1000.
- Potential to design a scheme of high quality that would be a positive addition to both the immediate neighbourhood and the town centre as a whole.
- Opportunity to enhance pedestrian connectivity for the surrounding residential areas to the town centre.
- Opportunity to provide family housing.
- Opportunity to provide a mixed development that could include appropriate community or leisure elements.
- Opportunity to enhance existing and reopen previously existing footpaths to recreate the original historical connectivity.



Threats

- Concern that due to the consolidation of the defence estate and reduction in armed service personnel that the Ministry of Defence may dispose of the site.
- Concern that without a planning brief for the site there is uncertainty and the opportunity for 'speculative' development such as a supermarket.
- Pressure to maximise development on the site due to land values.



7.5. Smaller sites

7.5.1. In addition to the three key sites identified in this strategy there are a number of smaller sites in the surrounding area which, when combined with the wider sites, could provide enhanced development opportunities for the area. These include:

- the bandstand and pavement area to the rear of the Spires;
- the council car park on Stapylton Road;
- the landscaped area at the end of Chipping Close;
- the relocation of the bus layover area on Stapylton Road; and
- the community centre on Salisbury Road.

Strengths

- The majority of these sites are in Council ownership.
- The sites provide a ‘support’ function to the town centre e.g. car parking, community facilities and open space.

Weaknesses

- Low quality and dated provision that detracts visually from the town centre.
- Poor maintenance detracts from the character and appearance of the area.
- Current layover area for buses detracts from the character and appearance of the rear of the Spires.
- Poor connectivity.
- The bandstand is poorly located in the middle of a wide pavement.



Opportunities

- Proximity to main sites could help unlock wider opportunities and deliver a more holistic redevelopment.
- Relocating the bus layover area could enhance the character and appearance of the rear of the Spires.
- Potential to enhance connectivity and pedestrian routes through the town centre.
- Enhancement of the public realm and landscaping

Threats

- Pressure to maximise returns on sites due to land values.
- Inability to bring sites together for disposal.

8. Delivery

8.1. How will we this be delivered

8.1.1. The key issues that need to be considered are:

- How will development be delivered?
- When will development be delivered?
- How will the impacts of any new development be managed?

8.1.2. A comprehensive approach to development will be required to ensure a high quality of design, an integrated layout and delivery of the development principles.

8.2. Controlling development through the planning process (plan making and development management)

8.2.1. Development will be required to comply with the development principles set out above and maximise opportunities for linkages to the other sites.

8.2.2. The Council will consider suitable planning obligation mechanisms for dealing with the cumulative impact of individual developments. This approach will help deliver wider aims and objectives where only partial redevelopment materialises.

8.2.3. This document provides a clear policy framework for the promotion of a comprehensive approach. To deliver the aspirations outlined in this Framework a more detailed level of strategic design development is required. This could be through the delivery of a site-wide master plan or the development of site specific planning briefs.

8.2.4. All development proposals will be required to adhere to the principles and requirements outlined in this Framework document to ensure coordination between development schemes and the delivery of strategic objectives.

8.2.5. Any new development will be fully assessed for its impact on existing infrastructure.

8.3. When will development be delivered?

8.3.1. When development in this area will come forward will depend on the property market, viability of the retail sector and land owner requirements.

8.3.2. In terms of existing planning consents, the extant permission for the redevelopment of the existing Barnet Market site was renewed in August 2011 (LBB ref: B/03642/10). The time period for implementation of the permission was extended for a further two years. Permission is for the redevelopment of the site comprising part two, part three storey building for continued use as a market on the ground floor, with total of 14 residential units on the upper floors with associated amenity space and basement parking (accessed via Chipping Close) for 27 cars.

8.3.3. However, UBS the owners of the Spires have recently purchased the market site and this may trigger an earlier application for a comprehensive redevelopment of both sites.

8.3.4. The Territorial Army site is well established and initial contact with the Ministry of Defence has indicated that currently they have no proposals to dispose of the site.

8.4. How will the impacts of development be managed?

8.4.1. The comprehensive redevelopment of the area covered by the Framework will require the provision of supporting facilities to be delivered through any planning application.

9. Conclusions and way forward

9.1. There is a need to invest in our town centres and the council has developed this planning framework as a mechanism for doing this in Chipping Barnet.

9.1.1. The council proposes either to prepare non-statutory planning briefs for each of the three key sites highlighted in the framework to address the site specific planning issues identified, or to work with key stakeholders to help draw up an overarching master plan for the framework area.

9.1.2. These documents will guide development proposals for these sites, paving the way for future applications and help ensure that development of these sites meet the key policy themes identified in this Framework.





10. Appendix 1 – Site Plan

10.1. Planning Framework



- 1** The Territorial Army Site
- 2** Barnet Market
- 3** The Spires Shopping Centre

-  Planning Framework Area
-  Chipping Barnet Town Centre Boundary

11. Appendix 2 – Barnet’s Planning Policy Framework

11.1.1. The Mayor’s priorities for London’s town centres are set out in the:

- London Plan, July 2011

11.1.2. Barnet’s priorities for its town centres are set out in the:

- Core strategy – Adoption version – June 2012
- Development Management Policies – Adoption version – June 2012

11.1.3. National planning guidance is contained within the National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012

11.1.4. In addition to the development plan the following documents are considered of relevance;

- Wood Street Conservation Area Character Appraisal Statement (2007);
- Monken Hadley Conservation Area Character Appraisal Statement (2007);
- Characterisation Study for Barnet (2010);
- Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment (2009);
- Barnet’s Affordable Housing SPD (adopted February 2007);
- Barnet’s Planning Obligations (S106 Agreements) SPD (2006);
- Barnet’s Sustainable Construction and Design SPD (2007);
- Barnet’s Draft Contributions to Life Long Learning SPD (2006);

11.1.5. The following Corporate documents set out the context for the approach at Chipping Barnet:

- The London Borough of Barnet Corporate Plan 2011/2013
- One Barnet; A sustainable Community Strategy for Barnet 2010-2020

11.1.6. Hard copies of these documents are available at Barnet House, 1255 High Road, Whetstone or electronically from the following websites:

- NPPF from www.communities.gov.uk
- GLA documents from www.london.gov.uk
- Barnet documents www.barnet.gov.uk

For more information:
tel: 020 8359 4926 email: thespires@barnet.gov.uk

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 July 2012 |
| Subject | Barnet's Local Plan – Core Strategy and Development Management Policies – Adoption |
| Report of Summary | <p>Cabinet Member for Planning</p> <p>The Local Plan is one of the most important statutory plans that must be produced for Barnet. The Core Strategy sits at the heart of the Local Plan and sets out where, when and how change will take place up to 2026. All other planning documents need to accord with its strategic direction and planning policies.</p> <p>The Development Management Policies (DMP) document sits beneath the Core Strategy. It sets out the borough-wide planning policies for implementing development. It forms the basis for decision making by planning committees and the planning service.</p> <p>The Core Strategy and DMP documents have, following an Examination in Public (EIP), been found sound, legally compliant and capable of adoption by an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State. The Inspector's Report is binding upon the Council and therefore no further material changes can be made. Upon adoption these documents will replace 170 policies in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) as the planning framework for Barnet.</p> |

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Officer Contributors | Director of Environment, Planning and Regeneration Assistant Director, Strategic Planning & Regeneration |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards affected | All |
| Enclosures | Appendix A: Inspector's Report for Core Strategy and |

Development Management Policies

Appendix B: Core Strategy – version for adoption

Appendix C Development Management Policies - version for adoption

| | |
|--|-----------|
| For decision by | Cabinet |
| Function of | Executive |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in (if appropriate) | N/A |

Contact for further information: Nick Lynch - Planning Policy Manager - 0208 359 4211

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That Cabinet approve the Local Plan Core Strategy Development Plan Document (Appendix B) and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (Appendix C) for reference to the meeting of Council on September 11 2012 for formal adoption.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 On 7 September 2011 (decision 1388) the Interim Director of Environment, Planning and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning approved Pre Submission Amendments to the Development Management Policies document before submission to the Secretary of State.
- 2.2 On 10 August 2011 (decision 1387) the Interim Director of Environment, Planning and Regeneration in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Planning approved Further Pre Submission Amendments to the Core Strategy before submission to the Secretary of State.
- 2.3 On 12 April 2011 Council (Decision item 5.1.1) approved the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies documents for submission to the Secretary of State.
- 2.4 On 29 March 2011 Cabinet (Decision items 6a and 6b) approved the Core Strategy Pre-Submission Amendments and the Development Management Policies submission draft for public consultation and recommended that Council formally approve the documents for submission to the Secretary of State. It also delegated authority to agree any consequent changes to the two documents for consideration at the Examination in Public.
- 2.5 On 6 September 2010 Cabinet (Decision items 6 and 7) approved the Core Strategy – Publication Stage and Development Management Policies – Preferred Approach
- 2.6 On 21 October 2009 Cabinet (Decision Item 9) approved the Core Strategy – Direction of Travel.
- 2.7 On 22 April 2009 Cabinet (Decision Item 6) approved a request to the Secretary of State to issue a direction saving all the policies of the UDP other than those listed in the Appendix.
- 2.8 On 18 June 2008 Cabinet (Decision Item 7) approved Core Strategy Issues and Options.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 All three Corporate Plan 2012-13 priorities are embedded within the Core Strategy and DMP documents.

In providing better services with less money the two documents address need to: -

- make more efficient use of our community assets in order to improve service delivery. Further integration of services such as libraries and children's centres in 'hubs' is highlighted as the way forward
- establish the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) as replacement for S106 funding and set out evidence on infrastructure requirements in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan which will form basis for a CIL charging schedule

In sharing opportunities and sharing responsibilities the two documents address need to: -

- provide increased housing choice in mixed communities including extra care housing and the need for lifetime homes in order to promote independence and to support vulnerable adults;
- enable children and young people to develop skills and acquire knowledge to lead successful adult lives through our programme for improvements to the schools estate, provision of children's centres and commissioning of youth services;
- improve delivery of clinical care as well as targeting unhealthy lifestyles and tackling health inequalities;

In enabling Barnet to continue to be a successful London Suburb the two documents address need to: -

- protect and enhance our natural environment through provision of new improved, multi-functional and accessible green spaces.
- protect and enhance our suburban environment by ensuring development respects local context and distinctive local character.
- ensure economic prosperity and enterprise through a mix of compatible uses including retail, housing and affordable and flexible workspace for business is provided in vibrant town centres to create local employment opportunities;
- make Barnet a safer place and through our programme of town centre frameworks enhance our suburban town centres as places which engender civic pride and activity;
- develop a better understanding of how new and growing communities in the regeneration areas integrate cohesively and transform prospects to become thriving diverse neighbourhoods
- support GPs and the plans of NHS Barnet or successor body to deliver modern primary care
- protect Barnet's heritage through designation and management of conservation areas, and protection of listed buildings, locally listed buildings and areas of archaeological interest.

3.2 In March 2012 the Government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF sets out the Government planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF replaced 44 planning documents, primarily Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and

Planning Policy Guidance (PPG), which previously formed Government policy towards planning. The Core Strategy and DMP documents have been revised to reflect the NPPF. Revisions include renaming Local Development Frameworks as Local Plans and a new policy CS NPPF to support the new presumption in favour of sustainable development.

- 3.3 A new tier of neighbourhood planning has been introduced with the Localism Act which will empower communities to help shape their areas. The 34 policies in the Local Plan Core Strategy and DMP provide the boroughwide planning framework for managing change in Barnet. This is the starting point for neighbourhood planning. Any Neighbourhood Plans that come forward in Barnet should reflect these policies and neighbourhoods should plan positively to support the Local Plan.
- 3.4 The Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2020 is the 'umbrella strategy' for the plans and strategies of key partners in Barnet. The Core Strategy reflects the vision for a successful London suburb with success founded on the borough's residents.
- 3.5 The Three Strands Approach sets out our approach to planning, development and regeneration over the next 15 years and is the Core Strategy priority spatial policy. The approach of protection of Green Belt and open spaces; enhancement of high quality suburbs, the historic environment and vibrant town centres; and management of targeted and consolidated housing growth in the pipeline in areas undergoing significant regeneration and strategic development provides the foundation for 'place shaping' Barnet.
- 3.6 The Core Strategy also reflects the spatial dimensions of the Children and Young People's Plan, Older People's Commissioning Strategy, Housing Strategy, Health and Well-being Commissioning Framework, Regeneration Strategy and the Safer Communities Strategy.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 As the UDP has become less relevant and ultimately outdated in the absence of a Local Plan replacement the Council's ability to justify and defend planning decisions including at appeal is weakened. Failure to adopt an up-to-date Local Plan which is consistent with the NPPF will hinder delivery of sustainable growth, proper planning of infrastructure and protection and enhancement of what makes Barnet distinctive as a place.
- 4.2 To minimise risk of High Court challenges on points of procedure the Council has demonstrated procedural compliance through assessment toolkits produced by the Planning Advisory Service.
- 4.3 Monitoring mechanisms make the Core Strategy and DMP living documents that are capable of being changed in part or in full. As part of an Annual Monitoring Report the performance of policies will be assessed and need for review identified against a background of any changing trends or assumptions behind our approach.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Core Strategy provides a high-level framework to help improve opportunities and quality of life. It ensures the delivery of community benefits including educational and healthcare facilities; a range and mix of housing including affordable housing; highways improvements; and open space provision for future and existing residents from all of Barnet's diverse communities. Any new buildings and public spaces within future development will be required to be compliant with disability legislation.
- 5.2 Both documents have been subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment which addresses the six questions for assessing equalities in the Corporate Plan and will ensure that policies developed and implemented through the Local Plan process contribute to improving the lives of local communities.
- 5.3 In order to understand the needs, aspirations and views of all of Barnet's diverse communities in producing the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies we ensured that consultation was as far reaching as possible. The Council produced a Consultation Statement when the documents were submitted to the Secretary of State setting out stages of engagement on the two documents. In an extensive three year period of consultation this included meetings of Barnet Civic Network, Citizens Panel, the Area Forums, the Federation of Residents Associations in Barnet and Barnet 55+ Forum.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 The cost of producing the Local Plan is included in the Environment, Planning and Regeneration Directorate's approved budget in 2012/13. The cost of ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the Core Strategy and DMP documents will be met from the same budget.
- 6.2 To support the EIP hearings in December 2011 an extensive document library was made available on the Council's website providing access to evidence underpinning the two documents. This is now being transferred to the new website so that planning customers can continue to utilise the information.
- 6.3 The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) to identify and minimise any potential harmful impacts of the policies and to maximise the beneficial impacts. The Inspector has endorsed the SA.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 To be sound Development Plan Documents (DPDs) should be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. At the EIP the Council proposed several modifications to address issues of soundness. On basis of these changes the Inspector considers both documents to be legally compliant with the requirements of Section 20(5) of the Planning &

Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012 and to meet NPPF criteria for soundness.

- 7.2 Following adoption of both documents by the Council an adoption statement is published making it possible for any aggrieved party to lodge an appeal to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of adoption by virtue of section 113 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. This statement is also sent to the Secretary of State who has the power under Section 21 (9) to direct changes to the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies
- 7.3 Upon adoption the Local Plan Core Strategy and Development Management Policies documents become statutory DPDs that provide part of Barnet's legal planning policy framework.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

- 8.1 Submission and adoption of DPDs is the responsibility of Council as set out in the Constitution, Part 3 (Responsibility for Functions) Section 3 (Responsibilities of the Executive).

9 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 The Local Plan Core Strategy comprises the long-term spatial vision and strategic place-shaping objectives for Barnet. It sets out a spatial strategy, core policies, and a monitoring and implementation framework with clear objectives for delivery. It is intended that the Core Strategy will be kept under review and maintain a 15 year time-horizon. Barnet's Core Strategy has a baseline of 2011 and therefore looks ahead to 2026.
- 9.2 The Local Plan Development Management Policies document sets out the boroughwide planning policies that will implement the Core Strategy and will be used for day to day decision making by the Planning Service and for determinations by the planning committees. The document sets out the policy basis for delivering the Core Strategy. The policies will be kept under review in line with the monitoring framework also set out in the Core Strategy.
- 9.3 Barnet's planning strategy is to manage growth so that it meets needs for homes, jobs and services in a way that conserves and enhances the character of the borough. The Three Strands Approach of protection, enhancement and consolidated growth ensures that in consolidating planned and pipeline growth we can provide stronger protection for the suburbs, gardens and Green Belt and enhance our quality residential neighbourhoods and town centres. This is Barnet's place making strategy and is central to our thinking on sustainable development.
- 9.4 Through the Core Strategy we will concentrate and consolidate housing and economic growth in regeneration and development areas such as Brent Cross –Cricklewood, Colindale and Mill Hill East, providing opportunities for

development that help create a quality environment that will have positive economic impacts on surrounding neighbourhoods.

- 9.5 Through the Core Strategy we can also enhance our quality residential neighbourhoods and town centres in particular the priority ones of Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley where opportunities are being identified for private investment.
- 9.6 Barnet will grow in the next 15 years. The Core Strategy reflects known development opportunities as well as the need to address housing need at a local and Londonwide level. By 2026 Barnet's economic and housing growth is expected to consist of :
- 28,000 new homes,
 - Nearly 75,000 m2 (net) of new retail space across Barnet (including 55,000m2 in a new town centre at Brent Cross Cricklewood),
 - 370,000m2 of new office floorspace in a new office quarter at Brent Cross Cricklewood
- 9.7 With a housing target of 28,000 new homes by 2026 the Core Strategy considers that beyond 2021 the opportunities for housing development will diminish reflecting that Barnet's capacity is finite. Continued and unconsolidated growth will impact on the qualities of Barnet which we are seeking to protect and enhance.
- 9.8 The Examination in Public Hearings, which commenced on 6 December 2011 and lasted for five days provided the opportunity through round table discussions led by the Inspector to address particular subjects, such as planning for Barnet's town centres. At the EIP Hearings the Inspector highlighted a number of deficiencies (five main issues of soundness and one of legality as set out below at paras 9.9 to) in the submitted versions of both documents. These deficiencies were addressed by the Council in order to make the documents sound and legally compliant.

9.9 Brent Cross Cricklewood (BXC)

The spatial vision for BXC has developed over time. This includes the 2005 Area Planning Framework Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) prepared jointly with the Mayor of London, the 2006 UDP policies affirming the approach to managing development in BXC, the 2008 hybrid planning application accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment and the October 2010 planning permission with legal agreement which provides clear timescales for the discharge of its many conditions. A lawfulness challenge was made which questioned the reliance in the Core Strategy on retention of 13 saved UDP policies and the 2005 SPG as the planning framework for the BXC regeneration area. The soundness challenges to Barnet's approach on BXC advocated review of the planning framework to reflect current market conditions. The progress of the 2010 planning permission was also raised given the need to secure a compulsory purchase order (CPO) as was the error on the UDP Proposals Map with regard to land at Geron Way.

- **Barnet's EIP Modification** – The Council's modifications confirm that the framework for development in BXC will be reviewed if, at the end of 2014, the Phase 1 CPO for BXC regeneration proposals has not been made and submitted for confirmation. The effect of these modifications is to make more precise the date after which existing UDP policies covering the area are likely to be reviewed.
- **Inspector's Report** – The Inspector considered that the link to UDP policies in the Core Strategy together with the 2014 time limit clarified which policies will be used to determine planning applications that affect BXC regeneration in the short to medium term. He considers the BXC planning permission to represent a commitment to comprehensive development over a 20 year period. Therefore a major review of BXC at this stage has the potential to create uncertainty for this long term activity. The Inspector considered Barnet's approach to be a pragmatic response and stated that the North London Waste Plan (NLWP) is the document to allocate sites for waste management purposes.

9.10 Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

The Inspector considered at the EIP that Barnet's approach was not in line with national guidance and the London Plan which requires local authorities to make provision for potential need. He was also concerned that there needs to be a clearer policy to ensure the Council is able to effectively deal with an application for a gypsy or traveller site if it were to receive one

- **Barnet's EIP Modification** – Amendments have been made to the Core Strategy to conform with national guidance and the London Plan. This now provides a much clearer and more evidence based policy framework for assessing any future application were one to be submitted.
- **Inspector's Report** – The Inspector considers that Barnet's approach provides a framework that plans for unexpected demand and sets a target for provision of pitches and plots informed by the Londonwide Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment. He supports sub-regional working to revise this target.

9.11 Provision of Affordable Housing

The Inspector questioned Barnet's interpretation of its evidence on affordable housing, the Affordable Housing Viability Study (AHVS), and considered that our approach (ie a 30% boroughwide target) is not in line with the London Plan which requires boroughs to seek to maximise their provision of affordable housing to help to meet London's housing needs. He also had concerns about the flexible approach to schemes between 10 and 15 units.

- **Barnet's EIP Modification** - Amendments have been made to the Core Strategy to reflect evidence on viability and requirements to address wider housing needs. This supports a move from a 30% affordable housing target to one of 40% on new housing development. However, the revised policy highlights that application of the 40%

target will be subject to financial viability. In order to reflect the London Plan and send out a clearer more realistic message on our affordable requirements the flexible approach to schemes between 10 and 15 units has been dropped.

- **Inspector's Report** – He concludes that, on the basis of new development being clearly required to deliver the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing, together with the evidence base before him, a target of 40% appears soundly based. The AHVS recognises the difficulty in pursuing a higher target but advises that such challenges are not unique to Barnet especially in current economic conditions. The DMP satisfactorily sets out circumstances when a reduction in levels of contribution or in lieu contributions might be acceptable. The current Affordable Housing SPD further clarifies that where viability is an issue of contention, the Council seek to have negotiations including a review of exceptional costs and an 'open book' assessment of profitability.

9.12 Residential Conversions

The Inspector was concerned that our approach on restricting conversions from houses to flats is not in line with national guidance in terms of ensuring efficient use of land.

- **Barnet's EIP Modification** – In supporting text to DMP policy DM01 on Protecting Barnet's Character and Amenity we have clarified that conversions may be acceptable in more accessible locations provided that any external alterations seek to minimise their impact on the external appearance of the building and on local character.
- **Inspector's Report** – He considered that Barnet's desire to protect suburban residential character from conversions needs to be balanced as much of the housing stock is within 800m of a town or local centre and principal public transport corridors. Sites enjoying good access to services and a range of public transport options should generally be considered for more efficient and effective use reflecting the London Plan density matrix which acknowledges such sites as more likely to be urban rather than suburban in character with an expectation of higher dwelling density ranges. The Inspector endorsed Barnet's modifications as they state more positively the situations when flat conversions might be supported while at the same time retaining measures to protect residential quality consistent with the Three Strands Approach. Such alterations provide a level of flexibility in the application of DMP Policy DM01 which will assist in making more effective use of sites close to town centres. He highlighted that modifications do not remove the need for decision makers to have regard to character when assessing proposals and indeed would allow the Council or another decision maker to withhold permission if a flat conversion were considered to adversely affect character.

9.13 Residential Car Parking Standards

The Inspector was concerned that Barnet's approach to the provision of parking for one and two bedroom homes is not in line with London Plan parking standards and as a result the Mayor considers the DMP document not to be in general conformity.

- **Barnet's EIP Modification** - We have not amended DMP Policy DM17 on Travel Impact and Parking Standards but have reiterated that Barnet has particular needs for parking which differ from other London boroughs and have clarified that our standards are maximums
- **Inspector's Report** – He considers that London Plan Policy 6.13 indicates that parking standards **should** rather than **must** be applied locally. The Inspector recognised Barnet's substantial empirical evidence showing car parking demand in new developments and the consequences of providing inadequate parking. He further recognised the broad settlement pattern of Barnet and its separation by a swathe of Metropolitan Open Land / Green Belt. This pattern makes cross-borough movements difficult by public transport in contrast with other boroughs closer to central London. Difficulties of connectivity provide some justification for loosening of London Plan standards. He also highlighted that by contrast parking standards stricter than those in the London Plan will continue to be applied in BXC. Barnet's approach was considered to be both more restrictive in parts and marginally less restrictive elsewhere when assessed against the London Plan. He concluded that on balance, this approach is broadly consistent with the thrust of the London Plan which seeks to balance promoting new development against excessive subsequent car parking provision. He found the Council's localist approach in general conformity with the London Plan and, furthermore, one that is supported by the NPPF (para 39).

9.14 In conclusion the Inspector considered Barnet's approach to be pragmatic without being overly prescriptive or being read as giving the 'green light' to inappropriate development. He considered that it reflects the necessary balancing act that long term plans of this nature should adopt, including the need to build in an element of flexibility as well as the Council's obligations to determine planning applications in accordance with the development plan and other material considerations.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Examination Library

10.2 Anyone wanting to inspect these papers should contact Nick Lynch on 0208 359 4211.

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The Planning
Inspectorate

Report to the London Borough of Barnet

by Vincent Maher MA (Cantab) MCD MSc MBA MRTPI

an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

Date: 22nd June 2012

PLANNING AND COMPULSORY PURCHASE ACT 2004 (AS AMENDED)

SECTION 20

REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION INTO BARNET'S CORE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT POLICIES DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS

Core Strategy DPD submitted for examination on 16 August 2011

Development Management Policies DPD submitted on 8 September 2011

Examination hearings held between 6 and 14 December 2011

File Ref: PINS/N5090/429/6

Abbreviations Used in this Report

| | |
|--------|--|
| AA | Appropriate Assessment |
| AHVS | Affordable Housing Viability Study |
| BL | Business Location |
| BXC | the Brent Cross Cricklewood area |
| CPO | Compulsory Purchase Order |
| CS | the Core Strategy |
| DPD | Development Plan Document |
| DMP | Development Management Policies |
| ELR | Employment Land Review |
| EUV | Existing Use Value |
| FPC | Further Proposed Change |
| GB | Green Belt |
| GLA | Greater London Authority |
| HMA | Housing Market Area |
| LDS | Local Development Scheme |
| LP2011 | the London Plan 2011 |
| LSIS | Locally Significant Industrial Sites |
| MM | Main Modification |
| MOL | Metropolitan Open Land |
| NLWP | North London Waste Plan |
| NPPF | National Planning Policy Framework |
| OAPF | Opportunity Area Planning Framework |
| PC | Proposed Change |
| PSA | Pre-Submission Amendments |
| PTAL | Public Transport Accessibility Level |
| SA | Sustainability Appraisal |
| SCI | Statement of Community Involvement |
| SCS | Sustainable Community Strategy |
| SHLAA | Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment |
| SHMA | Strategic Housing Market Assessment |
| SPD | Supplementary Planning Document |

SPG Supplementary Planning Guidance
TfL Transport for London
UDP Unitary Development Plan

Non-Technical Summary

This report concludes that Barnet's Core Strategy or (CS) and Development Management Policies (DMP) Development Plan Documents (DPDs) which form part of the Barnet Local Plan provide an appropriate basis for the planning of the borough over the next 15 years providing a number of modifications are made to the plans. The Council has specifically requested that I recommend any modifications necessary to enable them to adopt these DPDs. All of the modifications were proposed by the LPA, and I have recommended their inclusion after full consideration of the representations from other parties on these issues.

The modifications can be summarised as follows:

- Introducing a new Policy CS NPPF that asserts the presumption in favour of sustainable development;**
- Clarifying when it would be appropriate to launch a review of policy in the Brent Cross Cricklewood area, and confirming which policies will apply to development proposals that do not prejudice the major redevelopment of the area;**
- Increasing the proportion of affordable housing to be sought, and removing imprecise references to the application of policy as it affects developments of between 10 and 15 homes;**
- Indicating the range of homes anticipated on the North London Business Park site;**
- Clarifying criteria relating to the assessment of housing for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople;**
- Clarifying situations where tall buildings and flat conversions might be appropriate; and**
- Clarifying that parking standards for residential development are maximum standards.**

Introduction

1. This report contains my assessment of Barnet's Core Strategy (or CS) and Development Management Policies Development Plan Documents (DPDs) in terms of Section 20(5) of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (the Act). It considers whether the DPDs are compliant in legal terms and whether they are sound. The National Planning Policy Framework (the NPPF) states that plans should be consistent with this framework, including the presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF makes clear that to be sound, DPDs should be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.
2. The starting point for the examination is the assumption that the local authority has submitted what it considers to be sound DPDs. The Council prepared two submission versions of the two DPDs in May 2011 (reference CD001 and DM01). It made a number of pre-submission modifications (these were referred to as proposed changes or PCs and referenced CD002 and DM02 respectively) that incorporate modifications agreed following consultation on both DPDs and a range of corrections. The Council submitted these PC documents with the submission documents for examination.
3. Over the length of the examination, the Council made additional modifications to both DPDs (which were called further proposed changes or FPCs). Many of these changes comprise minor textual corrections or changes in phrasing that serve generally to improve the DPDs. The modifications incorporated other changes negotiated in accordance with three statements of common ground prepared before the examination hearings. A glossary has been added which improves the plan in that it defines terms. The FPCs effectively rewrite the monitoring indicators for both DPDs. To avoid doubt, I am considering the FPC to CS Policy CS2 that was the subject of a public consultation between January and March 2012 and not the revision that was tabled during the hearings.
4. The Council also proposed two more significant changes to CS Policy CS4 that alter the proportion of affordable housing sought and make provision for unexpected demand for gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople housing. These represent more significant changes to a policy compared to the other FPCs and were subject of a fresh consultation following an advertisement under Regulation 27 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004, consistent with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).
5. Further modifications to both documents were proposed following the release of the NPPF and *Planning Policy for Traveller Sites* in March 2012 that were the subject of a further round of public consultation. The changes proposed reflect the need to substitute previous Planning Policy Guidance and Statement references (PPG or PPS) but the Council also proposes a new Policy CS NPPF which commits it to supporting the new presumption in favour of sustainable development. For the avoidance of doubt, my report is based on the policy position set out in the submission DPDs in combination with the April 2012 iteration of combined PC and FPC documents (refer FPC006, FPC014 and FPC015).

6. In my opinion, the various FPCs - particularly the proposed amendments to CS Policy CS4 and introduction of a new Policy CS NPPF - do not materially alter the substance of the two DPDs or their policies, nor do they undermine the sustainability appraisal and participatory processes undertaken.
7. Notwithstanding the fact that the term FPCs was used to identify various changes throughout the examination, my report deals with the main modifications that are needed to make the DPD sound and legally compliant and they are identified in bold in the report (**MM**). In accordance with section 20(7C) of the amended Act the Council asked that I should make any modifications needed to rectify matters that make the Plan unsound/not legally compliant and thus incapable of being adopted. The main modifications are set out in Appendix A. The main modifications proposed by the Council that go to soundness and all FPCs have been subject to public consultation and I have taken the consultation responses into account in writing this report.
8. Some parties have invited me to recommend further main modifications that have the effect of correcting obvious typographical errors that remain in both documents. I agree, by way of example, that the term 'habitable room' in the Local Plan Glossary (reference NPPF CS E55) would be clearer if the word 'within' were used instead of 'with'. I implicitly recommend that the Council make such changes but note that these are minor textual changes that do not go to the soundness of the DPDs.
9. The Council prepared a Documents Library to support its evidence base and placed this on its website for the duration of the examination. I have largely used the relevant reference number supplied to identify documents for the sake of brevity. I observed that at least one of the Internet references did not provide the correct link to a document¹. In referring to the North London SHMA, I have therefore used the reference number on the website that provided a direct link to the document (DM070).

Assessment of Soundness

Preamble

10. The London Plan 2011 (LP2011) was published on 22 July 2011 shortly before the submission of the DPDs for examination. The emerging, revised London Plan had clearly been tracked during the preparation of both DPDs and the Council believed that their DPDs were in general conformity with the adopted Plan albeit the Mayor of London did not consider the DMP DPD was in conformity with regard to car parking standards for new housing. I address this matter later in my report.

¹ The electronic library has been temporarily removed from the Internet at the time of writing this report.

Main issues

11. Taking account of all the representations, written evidence and the discussions that took place at the examination hearings and in subsequent written representations, I have identified eight main issues upon which the soundness of the DPDs depend.

Issue 1 – Do the two DPDs contain a clear and sustainable place shaping strategy with precise objectives and priorities over a definite timescale capable of being delivered? Is it clear how the Development Management Policies DPD will implement Barnet's Core Strategy ?

12. The DPDs for this large outer London borough have been strongly influenced by the Three Strands Approach (CD073), a local initiative that seeks to promote a successful and attractive city suburb by: protecting the 'green lungs' of the borough including its extensive areas of Green Belt (GB) and Metropolitan Open Land (MOL); enhancing the quality of its suburbs and town centres; and promoting growth in other parts of the borough to pursue regeneration goals such as in the Brent Cross Cricklewood area (BXC) and to accommodate much of the planned future growth of the borough's population.
13. These strands are reflected throughout both DPDs. There are clear policies for protecting the borough's natural assets, a range of CS and DMP policies that serve to control and support limited new development in residential areas and many parts of the borough. More intensive development is anticipated in BXC, a number of priority public housing estates and a limited number of priority town centres, development sites and employment areas. The policies in both DPDs are supported by appropriate quantitative and qualitative targets to monitor their delivery, consistent with a detailed and well-researched evidence base.
14. A sizeable proportion of future growth in the borough is focused towards the west of the borough which will serve to strengthen the North West London to Luton co-ordination corridor and take advantage of the borough's rail and tube links. Area Action Plans (AAPs) for Mill Hill East and Colindale adopted prior to this examination indicate they are likely, together, to deliver 36% of the borough's new housing over the lifetime of the CS and that progress on delivering new development in these areas is underway. This is an initial indication that some of the Council's timescales and targets are likely to be delivered.
15. There are some differences between the AAPs and the DMP DPD (for example, on proportions of affordable housing sought). However, the CS and DMP DPDs will apply to AAP areas and the application of AAP policies will need to be interpreted in the context of these later DPDs as well as other material considerations. It is not critical to the soundness of either of the DPDs to direct the Council to initiate a review of either AAP now. The timing for any review is more appropriately addressed in a future iteration of the Local Plan.
16. The Council's approach to spatial planning in the borough is consistent with its Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and the development of policies has been underpinned by a lengthy consultation programme audited in CD05. The Council has demonstrated in other places how its approach to

reviewing specific local matters such as the role of New Barnet were informed by more focussed local consultation².

17. The two DPDs are interconnected with the DMP DPD setting out how the CS will be implemented. For example, to support the vision for the borough's town centres in CS Policy CS6, the DMP shows how this vision will be delivered in areas such as changes of use (DMP Policy DM11) or a preference for new education and community facilities to be directed to such locations (DMP Policy DM13). Inevitably, there is some duplication between the plans evidenced for example in the repetition of some monitoring indicators in both DPDs. This does not present a fundamental challenge to the soundness of either DPD.

Overview of planning policies to support the spatial strategy

18. Many policies echo national guidance but either have a sufficiently local twist or clarify in supporting text the local applicability of and justification for the policy such that they do not repeat national policy. For example, FPC DMP E9 strengthens the link between DMP Policy DM05 and how it would be applied in the borough. It generally improves this DPD.
19. The Council proposes a new policy (CS Policy NPPF) that asserts the presumption in favour of sustainable development set out in the NPPF. A number of submissions provide conflicting views on the appropriateness of this new policy. Opponents of the new policy are concerned it will allow inappropriate development across the borough or have suggested the insertion of this policy is unnecessary as it reiterates national policy. The effect of the new policy is to remove doubt about the Council's support for recently-announced national policy and the specific presumption in favour of sustainable development does not appear elsewhere in either DPD. For these reasons, the CS would be unsound without such a reference and, as such, I endorse **MM NPPF**.
20. It is not necessary to amend CS Policy NPPF to state specifically that the Council will consult the public and take their comments on board. These are statutory functions the Council has to carry out and the way in which they are carried out is covered elsewhere, for example, its Statement of Community Involvement which is referred to in the introduction to the CS. It is not necessary to amend other CS or DMP policies to emphasise the commitment to approve development without delay that accords with CS Policy NPPF. This is implicit in MM NPPF and does not need to be repeated.
21. A significant amount of the discussion at the hearings focussed on whether the approach to land use planning should be balanced more heavily in favour of protection, including changing words throughout both DPDs such as 'should' to 'must', 'strongly resist' to 'refuse'. The examination also considered whether the plans should more explicitly commit organisations such as the Council to 'do' rather than 'seek to do' things.

² Refer Council statement for Matter 3 (pages 4 to 6)

22. Overall, the Council's approach is pragmatic without being overly prescriptive or being read as giving the 'green light' to inappropriate development. It reflects the necessary balancing act that long term plans of this nature should adopt, including the need to build in an element of flexibility as well as the Council's obligations to determine planning applications in accordance with the development plan and other material considerations. Terms such as 'seek to' should be used where a policy specifically looks to direct or encourage others (for example, Transport for London (TfL)) to do things that support the delivery of the DPDs and on whose actions the Council does not have direct control or where funding for a project has not yet been identified (for example, measures to retain and enhance the creation of local biodiversity in DMP Policy DM16).
23. The Council's commitment to protecting GB and MOL is consistent with the NPPF and LP2011 which requires MOL to receive the same level of protection as GB land. I recognise the Council's resolution as a democratically elected body to adopt the Three Strands Approach with its commitment to 'absolute protection' of GB land from inappropriate development in its adopted and final draft. The Three Strands commitment to 'absolute protection' also appears in paragraph 2.2.1 of the CS. However, removing a reference to the very special circumstances in DMP Policy DM15 where development inappropriate for the GB might be allowed would make the policy inconsistent with national policy and therefore unsound. Further, the term 'very special circumstances' has a distinct meaning which has been clarified in the courts. By their nature, very special circumstances are exceptional. It is not therefore necessary for the DPDs to provide their own definition of how this term might be applied in Barnet.
24. For the same reason, it is not necessary for Barnet's policy to identify situations where new buildings in the GB should not be regarded as inappropriate as the NPPF provides clear guidance on this point. While the Council has identified types of uses that would be appropriate on GB land, it is not necessary for reasons of soundness to use the exact same terminology and land uses as those referred to in the NPPF.

Issue 2 – Do the DPDs provide an appropriate framework for guiding development in the Brent Cross Cricklewood area (BXC)?

25. The spatial vision for BXC has developed over time and its evolution can be traced through a number of milestones. In 2005 the Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, also known as the Opportunity Area Planning Framework (OAPF), for the area was prepared jointly by the Council and the Mayor of London and adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance (BXC SPG) (CD050)³. UDP policies affirming the approach to managing development in the area were adopted in 2006. Page 35 of the CS provides evidence of the partnership working which led to the establishment of the BXC development consortium. The London Plan Consolidated with Alterations since 2004 adopted in 2008 (CD

³ Refer section 1.4 of the CS.

071) confirmed again the BXC's importance as an Opportunity Area.

Substantial information was provided with the hybrid planning application covering a swathe of land in BXC submitted by the consortium in 2008 (C/17559/08). The documentation included an Environmental Impact Assessment. The legal agreement pursuant to the 2010 planning permission gives clear timescales for the discharge of its many conditions.

26. LP2011 continues to acknowledge BXC as an Opportunity Area (refer Policy 2.13 and Annex 1) with significant economic development potential capable of providing strategic office, retail and housing which capitalises on improvements to the Thameslink and the Northern Line. Table A1.1 of LP2011 re-affirms the area's importance within London. Unlike other OAPFs in LP2011, the BXC OAPF is not identified by the Mayor of London as under review.
27. A number of CS policies acknowledge the role that BXC is expected to play. In addition to commitments in CS Policy CS2, BXC's contribution to accommodating a substantial amount of the borough's new development including housing, office and comparison retail development are set out in Policies CS3, CS6, CS7 and CS8. Significant investment in public transport is anticipated in Policy CS9.
28. Policy CS14 states that a rail linked waste handling and recycling facility is proposed on a site adjoining Edgware Road. This reference is a matter of fact because it forms part of the 2010 planning permission. The reference is not a site allocation. The final location of a waste facility should be left to the North London Waste Plan (NLWP) (CD 063). I cannot give substantial weight to the NLWP in its current form as the public examination associated with it has not yet been completed. Further, it is not appropriate to comment on the size of site that might be required to accommodate the borough's waste or, indeed, if it is necessary to relocate the existing Hendon site.
29. A number of challenges to the spatial planning vision for BXC were raised, covering the lawfulness of CS policy and, in particular, Policy CS2, as well as its soundness. I address the lawfulness challenge first and then consider the submissions relating to this DPD's soundness.

Lawfulness challenge

30. The lawfulness challenge questions Policy CS2's reliance on links to saved policies in the Barnet Unitary Development Plan 2006 (the UDP) for development management purposes along with the Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework SPG prepared with the Mayor of London. It was suggested that it is neither appropriate to rely indefinitely on the transitional arrangements under Schedule 8 of the Act to carry forward UDP policies into the CS, nor can the Council lawfully incorporate these policies within the CS by way of a cross-reference.
31. The challenge to CS Policy CS2 must be reviewed in the context of the Council's FPCs offered at the end of the hearings. FPC CS E3, E13 and E14 confirm the framework for development in BXC will be reviewed if, at the end of 2014, the Phase 1 compulsory purchase order on land that forms part of the BXC regeneration proposals has not been made and submitted for

confirmation. The effect of these FPCs is to make more precise the date after which existing UDP policies covering the area are likely to be reviewed.

32. The Act is the starting point for considering the lawfulness of the CS. The Council is obliged to maintain a Local Development Scheme (LDS) in accordance with Section 15(1) of the Act. The latest version of Barnet's LDS (CD 008) was adopted in July 2011 following its submission to the Secretary of State and the Mayor of London. At paragraph 2.17 of the LDS, the Council makes clear that the LDF will have replaced most of the 'saved' policies in the Unitary Development Plan in 2012 with the exception of the suite of 'saved' policies specific to BXC listed in Appendix 6. The distinct status of the 'saved' UDP policies is clearly set out in the LDS. Their retention is also authorised by reason of the Secretary of State's direction made in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 8 to the Act.
33. Section 19(1) of the Act requires DPDs to be prepared in accordance with the LDS. CS Policy CS2 and supporting text in CS Policy CS1 state that the UDP policies will continue to be used to assess applications pertinent to the regeneration of BXC. This approach is wholly consistent with the Council's LDS. I do not read the references to UDP policies in CS Policy CS2 as specifically 'incorporating' UDP policies into the CS either but rather interpret the references as serving only to clarify which policies will be used to determine planning applications that affect the regeneration of the BXC in the short to medium term. As these FPCs have the effect of setting a time limit for assessing if and when a review of the saved UDP policies should take place, it cannot therefore be concluded that the Council intends indefinitely to rely on the provisions of Schedule 8 of the Act.

Soundness challenges

34. There are three potential challenges to the soundness of CS Policy CS2 and its reliance on the UDP policies and BXC SPG. The first is that the UDP and BXC SPG should be or should have been reviewed before the CS was prepared to reflect current market conditions. The second is that the future planning of the area is reliant on the 2010 planning permission being progressed. There are some uncertainties in this including the need to secure a CPO on land at Geron Way currently opposed by an affected landowner. The CS should therefore show that work on a 'Plan B' is being started in case the hybrid application is not progressed. Thirdly, the adopted UDP Proposals Map in error fails to include a reference to land at Geron Way and is therefore inconsistent with the findings of the Inspector who examined the UDP. I address each of these challenges below.
35. First, it is critical to appreciate the importance of the extant planning permission covering BXC. It represents a commitment to achieve a comprehensive development worked up by private and public sector partners with a range of local and sub-regional benefits that are scheduled to be delivered over a 20 year period. A major review of the area at this stage has the potential to create uncertainty for this long term activity. More practically, if a review of the planning of the area were to result in an alternative mix of uses being identified, this would not have any effect on the 2010 planning permission. It is most improbable that the Council would seek to revoke it. Moreover, a review of policy that led to a different range of suitable land uses might not be in conformity with the recently adopted

LP2011 which continues to affirm the role the area should play within the metropolitan context.

36. Secondly, there is a risk of uncertainty and a potential policy vacuum around the future of BXC should the planning permission not be progressed. To address this, **MM 1, 3 and 4** establish a time deadline after which the planning of the area might be reviewed. I accept this as a pragmatic response and endorse these MMs as they confirm if and when the plan for the area should be reviewed. Notwithstanding this, LP2011 policies would still apply and could be used in an interim way to assess major planning applications if the planning permission were not progressed.
37. Turning to the third potential challenge, while noting the error that occurred during the adoption of the UDP Proposals Map as it relates to Geron Way, the updated CS does not specifically allocate Geron Way for waste use. As I have indicated above, the NLWP is the correct DPD for considering the most appropriate site for a waste facility in the borough. The Council confirmed the Proposals Map will be updated to take account of the findings of the NLWP examination and the Site Allocations DPD.
38. The Council clarified that the application of UDP policies identified in Policy CS2 is only pertinent to major proposals directly related to the comprehensive redevelopment of BXC. I therefore endorse **MM 15** which makes clear that the DMP DPD policies will apply to minor proposals that can reasonably be expected to be lodged before the hybrid planning permission is implemented or before CS Policy CS2 is reviewed.
39. I conclude the framework for considering development in BXC is both lawful and sound subject to the aforementioned MMs.

Issue 3 – Are the two plans based on sound evidence of demand and supply of housing? Does the plan make sound provision for future new housing, in terms of the overall number of dwellings, geographical locations, housing mix and tenures?

Housing supply/ mix and delivery of associated infrastructure

40. The Council's housing target has been largely informed by the London wide SHLAA 2009 (REG 021) and further amended during the examination process to reflect the progress on individual regeneration areas and to correct errors in the renumbered Table 3⁴ to the CS and supporting text. The SHLAA identifies potential housing sites on previously developed land and specifically excludes private residential gardens. Such an approach is consistent with the NPPF. I conclude that the SHLAA is an appropriate tool for assessing the housing capacity of a suburban borough like Barnet.

⁴ This appears as Table 2 in the submission version of the CS but the numbering of this and other tables was changed as part of a suite of editing changes shortly after its submission to the Secretary of State. The latest version of the table is listed as FPC CS E7 in the combined document showing all Further Proposed Changes to the Core Strategy – Schedule 1 (FPC014).

41. The SHLAA identifies a potential minimum figure of 23,305 new homes and the LP2011 a minimum target of 22,500 homes in the period from 2011 to 2021. The CS figure of 21,720 homes shown in the renumbered Table 3 for this period (as indicated by FPC CS E7) reflects the likely timescale for the delivery of a number of major projects which are already in the pipeline or for which planning permission has been granted. On this basis, it is apparent that the Council has more than a five year landbank of deliverable sites. The table also gives a clear indication of where new development might take place including in town centres and the provision of windfall schemes.
42. The delivery of sites between Years 5 and 10 of the CS will continue to be 'lumpy' and will depend on other factors. I do not find it necessary to review or challenge the 10 year target adopted in the CS but am more concerned that the CS reflect the thrust of LP2011 which outlines the critical importance of delivering new housing and optimising densities on sites over the lifetime of the plan. The renumbered Table 3 anticipates 28,390 new homes over 15 years. A number of PCs collectively confirm this target exceeds 28,000 homes. Policy CS4 states that the Council will monitor the delivery of new housing and seek to meet or exceed this target.
43. The North London Business Park is identified in Table 3 as contributing to the Council's 15 year target. I endorse **MM 5 and 6** which indicates that the yield would be 'in the range of 400 homes' as the original figure of 400 homes is based on an adopted 2006 planning brief covering 10 ha of land on this site and adjacent land⁵. I have reviewed a submission indicating that the yield on this site could be considerably higher but this was based, in part, on a larger area being developed. It is possible that the final yield may differ from that implied by the 2006 planning brief on submission of a planning application as this application would have to take account of the adopted LP2011 density matrix and other housing related matters such as minimum floorspace this plan now imposes. As such, the term 'in the range of 400 homes' makes clear this is an estimate of the site's potential yield. I have not been presented with any compelling evidence that the area where development might be encouraged should be amended especially given that the site has been identified in LP2011 as an Industrial Business Park⁶.
44. It is not necessary to make specific references in the renumbered Table 3 to other sites such as the cleared Parcelforce site on Edgware Road as this site has been incorporated within the overall BXC target.

Housing priorities

⁵ The planning brief also incorporates adjacent land.

⁶ Paragraph 2.79 of LP2011 identifies such sites as suitable for 'activities that need better quality surroundings including research and development, light industrial and higher value general industrial, some waste management, utility and transport functions, wholesale markets and small scale distribution'.

45. The North London SHMA (DM 070), a more detailed local analysis derived from the SHMA (CD 046) and a boroughwide Housing Need Survey (EVD 009) have informed the plan's preferred housing priorities identified in DMP Policy DM08. The priorities for different tenures in the borough reflect this evidence base and must be seen within a housing policy context that seeks to promote a mix of dwelling types. The supporting text at paragraphs 9.1.6 and 9.1.7 make clear that this policy can be applied flexibly and that larger family houses may not be appropriate in town centres and local centres.
46. Moreover, the application of the LP2011 density matrix with its emphasis on higher densities in urban locations such as town centres will further ensure that homes for smaller households including housing for older people and flats are more likely to be sited in such areas. It is not necessary to alter the policy.

Affordable housing

47. DMP Policy DM10 relies on two triggers for the application of affordable housing policy. The first is for all developments of 10 or more units, consistent with Policy 3.13 of LP2011. The 60:40 mix between social rent and intermediate tenure also accords with the strategic target set out in Policy 3.11 of LP2011 which seeks to establish a more diverse intermediate housing sector.
48. The Council also seeks to apply affordable housing contributions on sites larger than 0.4 ha. This figure is informed by the fact that this outer London borough has some development sites characterised by extremely large houses on correspondingly large plots where house prices are in the top fifth percentile across a subregion that includes the City of Westminster⁷. Proposals for large homes in these areas⁸ might reasonably be expected as a direct response of the requirements in DMP Policy DM01 and local neighbourhood characteristics identified in the Council's Characterisation Study (DM 036). This might result in housing yields on individual sites below the affordable housing number threshold as a means of avoiding the delivery of affordable housing. The use of a site area trigger is therefore locally justified and consistent with strategic policy set out in paragraph 3.78 of LP2011.
49. Towards the end of the hearings, the Council revised upwards its target for the percentage of affordable housing as well as its approach to handling schemes of between 10 and 15 units. I consider both changes below.

⁷ Referenced in the North London SHMA (DM070) where pages 152 to 157 analyse the role of luxury housing in the subregion.

⁸ The Barnet Characterisation Study (DM036) identifies Linear Rural and Suburban Periphery typologies in the north of the borough originally constructed at a density of between 2 to 15 dwellings per hectare. The Council also identified in oral evidence areas in the south of the borough characterised by very large plots such as The Bishops Avenue in the Garden Suburb Ward.

50. The Council raised the target for affordable housing in eligible schemes during the examination from 30% to 40% after reviewing LP 2011 Policies 3.11 and 3.12. Both strategic policies direct Councils to seek the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing to help meet or exceed a London wide affordable housing target.
51. More locally, the Barnet Affordable Housing Viability Study (AHVS) (CD 039) suggests that securing 40% to 50% affordable housing is financially viable with grant funding on sites with low existing use values (EUVs) and viable in a more limited range of circumstances without grant funding but only in areas where sales values are towards the top range in the borough⁹. The AHVS tests a range of scenarios predicated on different EUVs and build costs to come to its view. However, it has only modelled outcomes based on a 70:30 split of affordable housing tenure between social rent and intermediate housing whereas LP2011 seeks a 60:40 split. This different tenure split might affect the sensitivity of the scenarios presented and therefore the AHVS' findings.
52. The AHVS also makes an assumption that sites with low EUVs including employment land and land previously in community use could be used for affordable housing. This is in conflict with other parts of both DPDs that seek to retain such activity in their current forms. In the case of employment land, CS Policy CS8 seeks to increase the amount of new employment floorspace and Policy DM14 affirms the stance of limited release of land in a B Use Class consistent with the Mayor of London's SPG on Industrial Capacity (REG016) and other local research. Employment land is not likely to make a significant contribution to the borough's supply of new housing.
53. The foregoing assessment of the AHVS has revealed some conflicting findings when subjected to scrutiny. However, on the basis of the evidence base before me and other submissions provided by the Council during the hearings to demonstrate how 40% would meet the borough's contribution of affordable housing within the North London context¹⁰, I conclude that a target of 40% appears soundly based. It is important to note, further, that Policy DM10 maintains, as a result of FPC DMP E16, that the new development will be required to deliver the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing. I therefore endorse **MM7, 8, 12, 18, 19, 20** and **22**.
54. It has been put to me that delivering this higher target of affordable housing proposed on specific sites may be a challenge. The AHVS recognises the difficulty in pursuing a higher target but advises that such challenges are not unique to Barnet especially in current economic conditions. Paragraph 11.1.7 of the DMP, as amended by PC DMP PSA 119, satisfactorily sets out circumstances when a reduction in levels of contribution or in lieu contributions might be acceptable. The current Affordable Housing SPD (CD
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⁹ Referenced in summary at page 3 and in more detail in section 7

¹⁰ Refer Council's final statement on affordable housing presented on 14 December 2011.(HIA027)

040) further clarifies that where viability is an issue of contention, the Council would seek to have negotiations including a review of exceptional costs and an 'open book' assessment of profitability.

55. The Council removed original references to a 'flexible and realistic' approach to securing affordable housing on sites of between 10 and 15 homes. I endorse the Council's final position expressed in **MM9** and **MM21** as necessary to remove an imprecise and unclear application of the policy which could potentially reduce the opportunities for securing the maximum amount of affordable housing required in LP2011.

Housing for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople

56. The Council also revised Policy CS4 to make it consistent with national policy relating to this distinct housing group. The revised policy provides a framework that plans more positively for unexpected demand and broadens the remit of the policy to cover the needs of travelling showpeople too. Furthermore, it sets a target for the provision of housing for gypsies and travellers informed by the London Boroughs' Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (REG 035). Accordingly, I endorse **MM 10, 11** and **13** as they are necessary to address the defects identified in the submitted version of the CS.

Issue 4 –Are the policies and proposals for business, industrial and warehousing land consistent with national guidance and supported by a comprehensive evidence base? Should the plans demonstrate greater flexibility in the use of employment land, including live-work opportunities?

57. Prior to the hearings, the Council submitted a number of PC changes to the supporting text to DMP Policy DM14 and Appendix 5 that correct obvious numbering and graphical errors about site classification and clarify which sites fall within the principal employment land categories in the CS. To avoid doubt, I have considered the various submissions about employment land on this basis.
58. The Employment Land Review¹¹ (ELR) (CD 058), LP2011 Policy 4.4 and the Mayor of London's SPG on Industrial Capacity (REG016) is the principal evidence and regional policy basis underpinning the logic for managing land use policy within the B Use Classes in Barnet. The ELR directly informs CS and DMP policies to create additional business space across the borough and which seek only a limited transfer of designated employment sites to other uses. The assumptions about the suitability of or need for Locally Significant Industrial Sites (LSISs) for general industrial and storage/warehouse activity (Use Classes B2 and B8) and the Industrial Business Park¹² and Business Locations (BLs) for business use (Use Class B1) appear reasonable in

¹¹ The DMP DPD refers to an Employment Land Survey. This is the same document as the ELR.

¹² PC DMP PSA 166 removes the erroneous term 'Industrial Business Location'.

principle and the retention of these sites clearly underpinned by strong economic evidence.

59. I have not seen any convincing evidence to show that the sites designated have no reasonable prospect of being used for employment. I am therefore not persuaded of the need to dilute the commitment to retain a significant proportion of the borough's employment stock. It will be clearly incumbent on the Council to revise land allocations in future iterations of the Barnet Local Plan. By contrast, Policy DM14 sets out criteria to support the loss of land in a B Use Class that is not designated as an LSIS, BL or IBP.

North London Business Park

60. The LP2011 designates the North London Business Park as an Industrial Business Park. It is the only economic development area in Barnet included within the LP2011 hierarchy of Significant Industrial Locations. The aforementioned PC changes on land designation clarify the extent of the North London Business Park designation. De-designating some or all of this site from employment use would render the CS inconsistent with the LP2011.
61. The loss of this site for the purposes set out in the CS cannot be justified by reference to the NPPF either as paragraph 51 makes clear that the loss of land to housing, even if there is an identified need for it including market research to show developer interest in it, would be inappropriate given the strong economic evidence offered for its retention as B Use Class land.

Loss of B Use Class land for other uses

62. The examination considered the criteria for promoting changes of use on designated employment locations. Warehouse clubs are identified in the NPPF as main town centre uses and Barnet's approach to protecting Locally Significant Industrial Sites (LSIS), Business Locations (BL) and Industrial Business Parks (IBP) from such uses is in principle soundly justified. A number of submissions invite me to support new housing on employment land. It is appropriate to protect employment land from being lost to housing given the regional evidence base referred to above which seeks only a limited release of employment land locally and the fact that the Council has identified a number of major sites that are likely to accommodate a large proportion of the borough's future housing need.
63. Other submissions argue for a more flexible use of employment space for activities such as employment training facilities that might directly support employment on B Use Class land or for the Metropolitan Police Authority estate to plan for non-public facing facilities, some of which fall outside a B Use Class¹³.

¹³ Page 6 of the MPA submission to the examination identifies a broad range of facilities. Some evidently fall within the B1 Use Class but others would appear to be sui generis uses.

64. The provision of police infrastructure might directly support the themes of crime reduction and managing disorder referred to in the NPPF. However, the police's estate management needs represent a specialised one-off, important local public service. I have no firm information of future Police estate needs locally and whether they represent a strategic issue that should influence industrial land policy in Barnet. The Council stated at the examination that the most appropriate opportunity to accommodate the future needs of the police including its non-public facing facilities is its Sites Allocation DPD. I concur with this view on the basis of the limited evidence before me.
65. Live-work accommodation can promote sustainable development by reducing the need for car-borne journeys to work. However, the provision of such accommodation does not appear to be a strategic issue for the borough either. I therefore do not consider it necessary for the Council to set out a policy relating to the provision of such accommodation in either DPD. More critically, such a policy could potentially prejudice the future use of much of the borough's employment land supply and conflict with the advice in the ELR and LP2011 which indicate that there should only be limited release of such land.
66. The IBSA/Watchtower group's commitment to providing 'dual residential/employment environments' for staff working on its publications is not only an integral part of that organisation's ethos but a distinctive need pertinent to that group. The group's commitment to house its staff differs from the provision of dedicated specialist homes for key workers such as nurses and police officers who provide an essential and local public service and need to be located close to the communities they directly serve. I do not consider it necessary for the Council to adjust its stated position. Any future planning application for on site accommodation would have to be determined on its own merits and in the light of any material considerations raised by this particular group.

Issue 5 – Do the plans provide an appropriate vision for the borough's 20 town centres and, in particular, New Barnet along with appropriate development management policies to help shape a sustainable future?

67. The Council's town centre policies are informed by qualitative and quantitative research that has taken account of the recent performance of each centre following the recent economic downturn (CD 074 and CD075) has been drafted in the light of the former PPS4 (NAT 038) and are consistent with the more relevant NPPF. The proposed hierarchy appears broadly appropriate as is the allocation of additional comparison and convenience shopping. This split rightly acknowledges that Brent Cross will, over the lifetime of the CS, acquire the metropolitan role within the London retail hierarchy anticipated in LP2011. The identification of a range of priority town centres outside of Brent Cross is an appropriate and targeted approach to guiding where change should take place and where it is appropriate for the Council to prioritise investment.
68. The commitment for a mix of retail unit sizes in significant developments expressed in DMP Policy DM11 is soundly based and has the effect of promoting consumer choice in town centres, consistent with the NPPF. The supporting text to this policy defines the term 'significant' as that exceeding

500 square metres or a net addition of this amount to an existing unit. No further changes are needed to clarify how this policy will be applied.

69. There are conflicting views about whether New Barnet should be reinstated as a priority town centre following its removal from the list of priority centres between earlier drafts of the CS and the publication version. This centre performs relatively poorly in the borough context. On the other hand, it has some existing high rise development and other land with development potential on the edge of the existing boundaries of this centre, such as the Asda holdings north of Victoria Road. However, the development potential of this site is clearly constrained due to its proximity to an HSE notifiable installation. The centre has access to public transport but the area as a whole does not score as highly as other parts of the borough that would be more suited to higher density housing to address the LP2011 density matrix.
70. The Council has also demonstrated in its oral and written evidence that the removal of priority town centre status reflects the views of local residents who responded to two consultation exercises and represents an example of localism in practice. On balance, I find that it is not critical to the soundness of the plan to identify New Barnet as a priority town centre.

Issue 6 – Do the two DPDs appropriately address the future infrastructure needs of the borough, including the siting of new community and social provision and the arts? Has adequate provision been made for the protection and promotion of public open space and other space, including recreational facilities?

Community and social provision including the arts

71. The Council has demonstrated a considerable level of contact with public sector providers in health and education as well as CommUNITY Barnet, an umbrella group for the voluntary sector¹⁴. Both plans give examples of how the voluntary sector is delivering services including in areas such as education. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (the IDP) (CD059a) clarifies plans for new investment by some major public bodies. The CS and IDP indicate how more intensive use of existing Council buildings and other community assets such as schools could address community needs including the arts¹⁵ too. It is not necessary to state more explicitly that the voluntary and private sector will deliver some of the borough's community services.
72. It is appropriate in the context of increasing population in a part of London with high land prices to resist the loss of community or educational uses except in the exceptional circumstances set out in Policy DM13a. It is not necessary to replace the word 'use' with the phrase 'services and facilities' that appears in the NPPF as the supporting text to the DMP DPD makes clear that it is setting out land use policy including the development of building

¹⁴ There are references in both documents as well as evidence from minutes of meetings recorded in the Council's Consultation Statement (CD006)

¹⁵ IDP Paragraph 3.18.2

and land. Nor is it necessary for reasons of soundness to make more explicit a desire to promote shared use of facilities following the release of the NPPF. This is made clear in CS Policy CS10 as well as much of the supporting text of the two DPDs, the Mill Hill AAP and specific initiatives such as the One Barnet Partnership Board as well as commitments to provide local hubs and broaden the remit of the borough's public libraries.

73. There is also an inherent logic in preferring new community and educational uses to locate in town and local centres as these generally have better access to public transport. However, restricting new uses to such centres alone has the potential to limit the choice of sites that some community groups - and particularly fledgling groups - may be able to afford to occupy. For this reason, I endorse **MM23** as it broadens the choice of preferred sites for such groups while ensuring that such development protects the living conditions of nearby residents.

Public open space and the management of open space

74. The 2009 open space assessment (CD 048) provides a detailed basis for assessing the borough's strategic need to plan for and manage sports and recreational land. Its methodology and conclusions are broadly consistent with the guidance to the former PPG17¹⁶ (NAT032a). The survey has focussed on all 'open spaces, outdoor sports and recreational facilities for which there is legitimate public access'¹⁷. This excludes private sports clubs and recreational facilities not open to the public. By itself, this does not make the assessment defective since the thrust of Council policy - principally set out in CS Policy CS7 but also in the supporting text to DMP Policy DM15 - is to defend open space and to provide additional space to accommodate new residents in parts of the borough anticipated to grow in population.
75. The assessment did not specifically take into account the land to the rear of Briarfield and Rosemary Avenue, London N3. This site has been the subject of two dismissed planning appeals for housing development. An application to make the site a village green was also dismissed. This site was identified on an earlier draft of CS Map 11 showing Barnet's Green Spaces and Play Areas. The submitted version of the CS has been renamed to show Public Open Spaces only¹⁸ and the site removed from the map.
76. Based on my observations on site and having reviewed the comments of fellow inspectors¹⁹, the site clearly has the characteristics of open space but is not of such strategic importance to the borough that it would be necessary to make specific reference to it either in the text of the CS or CS Map 11. The merits of any alternative use on the site are more appropriately addressed in a Sites Allocations DPD that would take account of other

¹⁶ This guidance note has not been replaced following the issue of the NPPF.

¹⁷ CD 048, p 11

¹⁸ CS PC PSA 104 also confirms this map is to be renumbered as Map 12.

¹⁹ Most notably, APP/N5090/A/07/2046984, APP/N5090/A/10/2131311 and the Village Green appeal

initiatives including the Council's Leisure Review. Other nearby projects may go some way to addressing local open space deficiency such as the new park at the Finchley Memorial Hospital site²⁰.

Issue 7 – Do the two plans provide an appropriate framework for managing transport in the borough, including promoting a range of transport options? Are the Council's proposed parking standards for residential development locally justified and sustainable?

77. The Council has responded to most London wide transport challenges as is reflected in a number of PC changes made to address TfL concerns. The FPCs to the CS show greater alignment between the Council's draft Local Implementation Plan (EVD031) to set targets to increase cycling as a proportion of all travel movements. DMP Policy DM17 provides an appropriate way of ensuring that major development embraces alternative forms of transport to the car through the provision of transport assessments and travel planning. While the DPDs in combination seek to improve road safety, it is not necessary to make the plan sound to be specific about the use of specific measures such as 20mph zones to achieve it.
78. The Council has largely followed the London Plan's parking standards with the exception of one and two bedroom homes. For the avoidance of doubt, **MM24** clarifies the standards are to be interpreted as maximum standards and is necessary to be consistent with LP2011. I therefore endorse this main modification. The only area of difference between the two plans relates to one and two bedroom developments where there is a marginal departure from LP2011 Table 6.2. The Mayor of London states that, as such, this policy is not in general conformity with LP2011.
79. Having reviewed LP2011 Policy 6.13, it is clear that LP2011 indicates that the parking standards **should** rather than **must** be applied locally. LP2011 states at paragraph 6.42 that 'London is a diverse city that requires a flexible approach to identifying appropriate levels of car parking provision across boundaries. This means ensuring a level of accessibility by private car consistent with the overall balance of the transport system at the local level'. This wording is critical to understanding how LP2011 policy should be interpreted locally.
80. The Council has provided substantial empirical evidence including surveys of recently completed development to show car parking demand in new developments and the consequences of providing inadequate parking. Barnet is a large outer London borough broadly characterised by two linear settlements along each of the two branches of the Northern Line and separated by a substantial swathe of MOL/GB. This settlement pattern makes cross-borough movements difficult by public transport as was demonstrated at the examination by reference to a trip from Edgware to Chipping Barnet by public transport in contrast with cross borough

²⁰ IDP, page 27 of 34 of Appendix table

movements in other local authorities closer to central London. Difficulties of connectivity would appear to provide some justification for a loosening of LP2011 Table 6.2 standards. By contrast, it should be noted that maximum parking standards stricter than those in LP2011 will continue to be applied in BXC.

81. The Council's approach can therefore be shown to be both more restrictive in parts and marginally less restrictive elsewhere when assessed against LP2011. On balance, the Council's approach is broadly consistent with the thrust of LP2011 Policy 6.13 which seeks to balance promoting new development against excessive subsequent car parking provision. As such, I find the Council's localist approach in general conformity with LP2011 and, furthermore, one that is supported by paragraph 39 of the NPPF. It therefore complies with section 24 of the Act.

Issue 8 – Do the two plans provide a basis for facilitating the population growth anticipated while, at the same time, promoting good urban design which protects the distinct characteristics of the borough's neighbourhoods and supports sustainable development?

82. CS Policy CS5 provides the principal policy basis for promoting good design and is supported by DM Policy DM01. Suburban residential development comprising two storey dwellings is the predominant urban character in the borough, much of which has a high quality of amenity as is evidenced by the Characterisation Study of Barnet²¹. The protection of this suburban form is an integral part of the Three Strands Approach. The Council's articulation of its approach to design management clearly reflects local circumstances and national policy. It is not necessary to weave additional clarifying text from the NPPF into the Council's design policies.

Tall buildings and housing density

83. The Tall Buildings Study (CD 069) is the principal basis for supporting the local plan-led response required by LP2011 Policy 7.7 for the preferred siting of tall buildings within the borough. LP2011 does not define the height of a 'tall building' but I concur with the study's findings that buildings of eight or more stories take on the attributes of a tall building in the context of a suburban borough such as Barnet. This study acknowledges the existing clusters of development in strategic locations where it is more appropriate in principle to consolidate new development. These locations include public housing estates and a number of priority town centres such as Finchley Church End and North Finchley with potential development sites where the Council is preparing town centre frameworks (CD 061 d and e).
84. The logic for prioritising tall buildings into these centres appears appropriate and locally justified reflecting other regeneration activity and other development opportunities. It would be inappropriate to remove these centres from the list of strategic locations. DMP Policy DM01 and DM05

²¹ DM036, pp 70 to 77

together establish a number of criteria against which tall building proposals will be assessed. Most critically, the need for new development to demonstrate its successful integration into the existing urban fabric serves as a way of ensuring such development would have to provide appropriate interfaces with nearby development of a lower height.

85. I have considered the merit of including New Barnet as a further strategic location. Notwithstanding its proximity to a railway station and other tall buildings, the area does not enjoy a high PTAL score in comparison with other parts of the Borough and does not therefore present an obvious location for prioritising additional tall buildings. For the reasons given above, there are sound reasons why New Barnet should not be given priority town centre status. However, this should not automatically rule out a positive consideration of further tall building development in this centre. In this respect, I endorse **MM 2 and 14** as they do not rule out consideration of applications for tall buildings in other locations.

Flat conversions

86. More intensive use of a predominantly suburban housing stock through flat conversions can have a cumulatively detrimental impact on the character of an area. This can result in increased pressure for hardstanding for vehicles and additional bin stores, the loss of family size housing and on street parking stress in a borough which does not have extensive Controlled Parking Zone coverage. Some of these concerns are identified in the Characterisation Study of Barnet²². Other representations at the examination make the assertion that flat conversions can change the profile of a neighbourhood too, making them less stable.
87. The Council's desire to protect the character of its established suburban residential neighbourhoods from this form of development needs to be balanced by the fact that much of its housing stock is located within 800m of a town or local centre and the borough's principal public transport corridors. Sites enjoying good access to services and a range of public transport options should generally be considered for more efficient and effective use reflecting the LP2011 density matrix which acknowledges such sites as more likely to be urban rather than suburban in character with an expectation of higher dwelling density ranges.
88. I endorse **MM 16 and 17** as they state more positively the situations when flat conversions might be supported while at the same time retaining measures to protect residential quality consistent with the Three Strands Approach. Such alterations provide a level of flexibility in the application of DMP Policy DM01 (h) and (i) which will assist in making more effective use of sites close to town centres at appropriate locations in support of LP2011. I have been asked to review the Council's FPCs by reference to a fellow Inspector's recent decision on flat conversions. MM16 and MM17 do not

²² Reference DM036 p 133 focusses on off street car parking in suburban streets.

remove the need for decision makers to have regard to the character of an area when assessing proposals and indeed would allow the Council or another decision maker to withhold permission if a flat conversion were considered to have an adverse effect on the character of an area.

Vehicular crossovers and other forms of development in Barnet's suburbs

89. The Council's town planning powers to restrict vehicular crossovers and hardstandings in most residential areas are severely constrained. It is not appropriate for the Council therefore to develop a specific land use planning policy to cover a matter that is largely exempt from planning control over and above the general principles for good development set out in DMP Policy. I pass no observation on whether the Council could separately make use of highway legislation to control crossovers as this falls outside of my obligation when testing these DPDs for soundness. I pass no observation on the viability or merit of an Article 4 direction either.

Issue 9 – Do the DPDs make sufficient provision for the planning of infrastructure necessary for the borough? Are the implementation mechanisms identified sufficient and suitable to achieve their objectives? Is the monitoring proposed throughout the two plans sufficiently comprehensive and informative to help measure achievement against its objectives?

90. The IDP (CD 059a) brings together the Council's aspiration for investment in the borough's physical, social and 'green' infrastructure. It is a living document that is updated as projects are delivered and in response to changing circumstances. While it will be used to inform the Council's five year programme, it also considers the need to plan for infrastructure provided by others. It was clear in the examination that there is some uncertainty in funding especially for future school provision although the IDP makes clear that it is not easy to plan beyond a five year period due to difficulties in forecasting migration levels beyond the medium term. The Council identified other projects where there is a funding gap. Barnet is not unique in expressing some uncertainty about investment in the current context of constrained public spending. In all likelihood, some of the projects in the IDP are more likely to be 'desirable' rather than 'necessary' or 'critical'. Nonetheless, I am not aware of any obvious infrastructure 'show stoppers' that would stop the spatial strategy from being delivered.
91. The DPDs contain a number of policies - most notably CS Policy CS15 and DMP Policy DM17 - that put mechanisms in place to pay for the infrastructure to meet the needs generated by new housing development. The Council has also indicated that it will establish its own Community Infrastructure Levy that will provide a further safeguard to ensure sufficient infrastructure is in place before new development is delivered. On this basis, I am satisfied the Council has mechanisms to fund and deliver the infrastructure needed to support the growth of the borough's population anticipated over the lifetime of the DPDs.
92. The Mill Hill substation forms part of the 275kV electricity transmission network serving London and the wider area. Changes in electricity generation across the country and increased demand in London and the South East may result in the need for an expansion of the substation

buildings on the National Grid's land during the lifetime of the CS. At the same time, the land is designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance for Nature Conservation. Accordingly, any proposals that are not permitted development will need to be considered against LP2011 given its London wide importance as well as to Barnet. The Council's approach in DMP Policy DM16 is in broad compliance with LP2011 policy and is therefore soundly based. I have seen no evidence to justify departure from LP2011 policy or that the application of DMP Policy DM16 would prevent the effective supply of electricity to the borough or the rest of London.

93. The Council substantially rewrote its monitoring indicators for both DPDs during and after the hearings (refer FPC 006). Many revisions represent adjustments to baseline indicators where none previously existed or establish new baseline positions and targets that will help monitor the success of each policy. Other changes correct errors or are necessary to make the relevant indicator consistent with other PCs and FPCs in the DPDs and generally improve the DPDs.

Assessment of Legal Compliance

94. My examination of the compliance of the DPDs with the legal requirements is summarised in the table below. I conclude that both DPDs meet them all.

| LEGAL REQUIREMENTS | |
|---|--|
| Local Development Scheme (LDS) | The CS and DMP DPDs are identified within the approved LDS dated July 2011 as having an expected adoption date of December 2011. The content of these DPDs broadly complies with the LDS. The delay in adoption is not critical. |
| Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and relevant regulations | The SCI was adopted in 2007 and consultation has been compliant with the requirements therein, including the consultation on the post-submission proposed 'main modification' changes (MM). |
| Sustainability Appraisal (SA) | SA has been carried out and is adequate. |
| Appropriate Assessment (AA) | The Council's Habitats Directive Assessments Screening Report (September 2010) sets out why AA is not necessary. |
| National Policy | The DPDs complies with the NPPF and other national planning policies except where indicated and changes are recommended. |
| Spatial Development Strategy (RS) | The DPDs are in general conformity with LP2011 for the reasons set out in paragraphs 79 to 81. |
| Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) | Satisfactory regard has been paid to the SCS. |
| 2004 Act and Regulations (as amended) | The DPDs comply with the Act and the Regulations. |

Overall Conclusion and Recommendation

95. The submitted DPDs had a number of deficiencies in relation to soundness for the reasons set out above which mean that I recommend non-adoption of them as submitted, in accordance with Section 20(7A) of the Act. These deficiencies have been explored in the main issues set out above.
96. The Council has requested that I recommend main modifications to make the DPDs sound, legally compliant and capable of adoption. I conclude that with the recommended main modifications set out in Appendix A, the two DPDs satisfy the requirements of Section 20(5) of the Act and meet the criteria for soundness in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Vincent Maher

INSPECTOR

This report is accompanied by:

Appendix A (separate document) - main modifications to DPDs that go to soundness

| Table 1 Main Modifications to Core Strategy DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | | |
|---|----------------------------|--|---|
| Appendix | Inspector reference | Local Authority examination reference | Policy/ paragraph in plan |
| | MM NPPF | NPPF CS E8 | New Policy to be inserted at page 5 |
| | | | <p>Change necessary for reasons of soundness (additions in bold and text deleted as struckthrough)</p> <p>Policy CS NPPF - National Planning Policy Framework - Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</p> <p>When considering development proposals we will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).</p> <p>We will always work proactively with applicants jointly to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in Barnet.</p> <p>Planning applications that accord with policies in Barnet's Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.</p> <p>Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision then the council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole; or • Specific policies in that NPPF indicate that development should be restricted. |

| Appendix Table 1 Main Modifications to Core Strategy DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | | |
|--|--------|---|--|
| MM1 | CS E3 | New Para 1.4.5a | Monitoring indicators for the Brent Cross – Cricklewood policy set out in Appendix B will have regard to the progress made in the implementation and delivery of regeneration. The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order. If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. These indicators will provide the basis for the review of the Core Strategy and The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme and may, if necessary or appropriate, lead to introduction of new DPD or SPD to further guide and control the comprehensive regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood. |
| MM2 | CS E11 | Policy CS 1 – Barnet's Place Shaping Strategy | We will only consider support proposals for tall buildings.... |
| MM3 | CS E13 | 7.5.2 | In view of the substantial progress that has been made towards the implementation of the relevant UDP saved policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood we consider that it is inappropriate at this time to replace the suite of policies listed in Appendix A. In order to provide a detailed policy framework to secure the future comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross Cricklewood these 'saved' policies will continue to operate unless and until it is considered appropriate to replace them. Specific monitoring indicators for Brent Cross – Cricklewood are set out in Appendix B. These indicators are closely aligned with the progress to be made under the planning permission in securing the implementation and delivery of regeneration before 2015/16 including in particular key infrastructure as identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and providing new housing. These indicators will provide the basis for the review of the Core Strategy The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross-Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme. This may involve the |

| Appendix Table 1 Main Modifications to Core Strategy DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | |
|--|---|
| MM4 | <p>review of the Core Strategy and may if necessary or appropriate lead to introduction of new DPD or SPD to further guide and control the comprehensive regeneration of the Brent Cross – Cricklewood area.</p> <p>The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross-Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme. This may involve the review of the Core Strategy and may if necessary or appropriate lead to introduction of new DPD or SPD to further guide and control the comprehensive regeneration of the Brent Cross – Cricklewood area.</p> |
| MM5 | <p>The North London Business Park and Oakleigh Road South is identified as a smaller development area in the east of the borough. It is estimated that in the range of 400 new homes will be delivered as part of a mixed use development in accordance with the adopted planning brief of June 2006.</p> |
| MM6 | <p>We will also promote the development area of the North London Business Park and Oakleigh Road South in order to develop in the range of 400 new homes by 2020/21 as part of a mixed use development in accordance with the adopted Planning Brief of June 2006.</p> |
| MM7 | <p>Barnet has the fourth highest housing target in London as the borough has the capacity to deliver more housing than is needed locally and is capable of making a significant contribution to London’s overall growth as a Successful London Suburb and Opportunity Borough. In order to make such a contribution and to accord with the London Plan (Policy 3.11 – Affordable Housing Targets) we will seek to deliver 300400 of new homes as being affordable. This equates to a 3040% boroughwide affordable housing target.</p> |
| MM8 | <p>Barnet’s Affordable Housing Viability Study (2010) has tested the ability of a range of sites throughout Barnet to provide varying levels of affordable housing, with and without grant and with various tenure mixes, on a range of sites in various existing uses. For the purposes of establishing an affordable housing target, if a residential scheme with a given level of affordable housing and other planning obligations has a higher value than</p> |

| Appendix Table 1 Main Modifications to Core Strategy DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | |
|--|---|
| | <p>the existing use value plus a margin to incentivise the owner to release the site for development, the scheme can be judged to be viable. The 2010 Study supports a 30% affordable boroughwide housing target as being financially viable, indicates that 40% to 50% affordable housing could be financially viable particularly on sites with lower existing use value such as industrial and community uses. Barnet is not a prime industrial location. As set out in Section 13.5 only 3% of employment land in Barnet is worthy of release. We also seek through DM 14 – New and Existing Employment Space to retain viable employment locations in Barnet. We also seek to retain community and education uses as set out in DM 13 – Community and Education Uses as such infrastructure supports the Borough as it grows. There are therefore limited opportunities for redevelopment of industrial and community uses to support a boroughwide target of 50% affordable housing. We consider that, as demonstrated by the 2010 Study, a 40% boroughwide target is financially viable and appropriate in helping to address our priorities for delivering family homes.</p> |
| MM9 | <p>CS E21</p> <p>9.6.13 Supersedes Adden 69</p> <p>Since the introduction of a 50% affordable housing target at 10 units or more in 2006 there has been a reduction in affordable housing delivery in Barnet because of a decrease in proposals for small to medium sized residential sites. Prior to the economic downturn the viability of these sites appears to have been impacted by inflexible top-down targets and a low trigger threshold which caused developers to either submit residential developments of up to 9 units or landowners chose not to develop a site. DM10 Affordable Housing Contributions sets out details on the mechanisms for providing affordable housing and for determining applications.</p> |
| MM10 | <p>CS E22</p> <p>9.7</p> <p>Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople</p> |
| MM11 | <p>NPPF CS E22 (incorporating changes in CS E23)</p> <p>9.7.1</p> <p>Circulars 01/2006 and 04/2007 states that Core Strategies should In March 2012 the Government published Planning Policy for Traveller Sites. Government policy requires Local Plans to set out criteria for the location of gypsy and traveller pitches sites and plots for travelling showpeople. In order This will help to guide the allocation of any sites / plots and to meet manage unexpected demand. To meet the long term needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople we will seek to identify appropriate sites for Gypsies and Travellers through the Site</p> |

| Appendix Table 1 Main Modifications to Core Strategy DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | | |
|--|--------|---|---|
| | | | <p>Allocations DPD. The pan London Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation and Needs Assessment 2008 (GTANA) sets out a range of minimum to maximum pitch requirements for Barnet up to 2017 from zero to 15 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and up to 2 plots for Travelling Showpeople. The council will work with sub-regional partners to ensure that the evidence base is reviewed. This may change the range of maximum to minimum targets set out above.</p> |
| MM12 | CS E24 | Policy CS 4 Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delivering a minimum affordable housing target of 5,500 new affordable homes by 2025/26 and seeking a boroughwide target of 30% 40% affordable homes on sites capable of accommodating ten or more dwellings |
| MM13 | CS E25 | Policy CS 4 Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet | <p>Within the Site Allocations DPD we will seek to identify land to meet the long term needs of Gypsies and Travellers.</p> <p>Proposals for sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople must have regard to the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> close proximity to a main road and safe access to the site with adequate space on site to allow for the manoeuvring of vehicles reasonable access to local shops and other community facilities in particular schools and health care potential of the site for good management the scale of the site is in keeping with local context and character provision of appropriate landscaping and planting to address impact on local environment, character and amenity and enable integration of the site with the surrounding environment any use on the site does not have any unacceptable adverse impacts on neighbouring residents provision of appropriate facilities must be provided on-site access to essential services including water and waste disposal. |

| Appendix Table 1 Main Modifications to Core Strategy DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | |
|--|--------|---|
| MM14 | CS E28 | <p>Policy CS5 Protecting and Enhancing Character</p> <p>Tall buildings (8 storeys(or 26 metres) or more) will only be considered may be appropriate in the following strategic locations.....</p> <p>Within the Site Allocations DPD we will seek to identify land to meet the long term needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople based on an evidence base of the range of pitches / plots required in Barnet</p> |

| Appendix Table 2 Main Modifications to Development Management DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------------|--|
| Inspector reference | Local Authority examination reference | Policy/ paragraph in plan | |
| MM15 | DMP E2 | 1.4.3 | <p>Change necessary for reasons of soundness (additions in bold and text deleted as strikethrough)</p> <p>New sentence at end of para</p> <p>Any other planning applications not directly related to the comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross Cricklewood Regeneration area will be considered against relevant policies in this DPD and any other material planning considerations.</p> <p>The conversion of existing dwellings into flats can have a cumulative effect that is damaging to the quality of the environment and detracts from the character of established residential areas. Conversions may be appropriate in certain types of property or street but particularly where they are highly accessible. However even in such locations they can harm the character of areas by changing external appearance the nature of a neighbourhood and increasing activity. Such activity this intensification of use can often involve more people movements, increased car movements and parking stress, more rubbish to be collected and more deliveries. Flat conversions must therefore be situated in appropriate locations characterised by housing that has already undergone significant conversions or redevelopment to flattened accommodation. Conversions in roads characterised by unconverted houses will not normally be appropriate. Where conversions are acceptable any external alternatives should seek to minimise their impact on the external appearance of the house and local character. Further guidance on conversions will be set out in the Residential Design Guidance SPD.</p> |
| MM16 | DMP E4 | 2.8.1 (supersedes PSA 23) | |
| MM17 | DMP E5 | New para 2.8.1a | <p>Where conversions are acceptable any external alterations should seek to minimise their impact on the external appearance of the property and local character. Conversions must also be able to satisfactorily address all other relevant policies in the DPD including the need to consider the dwelling size priorities set out in DM08 and the approach to parking management set out in DM17. Further guidance on conversions will be set out in the Residential</p> |

| Appendix Table 2 Main Modifications to Development Management DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Inspector reference | Local Authority examination reference | Policy/ paragraph in plan | Change necessary for reasons of soundness (additions in bold and text deleted as strikethrough) |
| MM18 | DMP E11 | 11.1.1 | Design Guidance SPD. ...the borough-wide target for 30%-40% of all new homes to be affordable... |
| MM19 | DMP E12 | 11.1.2 | Since the introduction of a 50% affordable housing target at 10 units or more in 2006 there has been a reduction in affordable housing delivery in Barnet because of a decrease in proposals for small to medium-sized residential sites. Prior to the economic downturn the viability of these sites appears to have been impacted by inflexible top-down targets and a low trigger threshold which caused developers to either submit residential developments of up to 9 units or landowners chose not to bring forward their site for development thereby reducing overall supply. |
| MM20 | DMP E13 | 11.1.3 (supersedes DMP PEA 2/II & PSA 117) | Whilst retaining a threshold of 10 units The threshold for requiring affordable housing is 10 or more housing units. The maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing that will be required on site will be considered on a site by site basis and subject to viability. considerers that for schemes of 15 units or more it is reasonable to aim to implement on site, subject to viability, the borough-wide target of 30% of all new homes to be affordable. Delivery of more than 340% affordable housing will be sought where viable. However the Council recognises that viability is a key consideration for smaller sites and will take a more flexible approach for sites capable of reaching 10 to 15 units. The affordable housing threshold will also be triggered by redevelopment on sites larger than 0.4 hectares (including conversions). Affordable housing calculations should be made in terms of habitable rooms or floorspace. Calculations should be made in relation to gross development based on the total number of units in the final development. |
| MM21 | DMP E15 | 11.1.6 | 11.1.6 When assessing whether a flexible approach is appropriate for sites capable of reaching 10 to 15 units the following will be considered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • financial viability • site size |

| Appendix Table 2 Main Modifications to Development Management DPD necessary for reasons of soundness | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| Inspector reference | Local Authority examination reference | Policy/ paragraph in plan | Change necessary for reasons of soundness (additions in bold and text deleted as stricken through) |
| MM22 | DMP E16 | Policy DM10: Affordable Housing Contributions (supersedes DMP PEA 2/mm & PSA 120) | <p>• suitability for affordable housing;</p> <p>• the intended management of the affordable housing.</p> <p>Having regard to the borough-wide target that 30% 40% of housing provision should be affordable, the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing will be required on site, subject to viability, from all new sites providing 10 or more units gross or covering an area of 0.4 hectares or more.</p> |
| MM23 | DMP E18 | 14.1.5 | Community and education uses should be easily accessible to users. We will encourage new uses should seek to locate in town centres and local centres first before as these other locations which are well served by public transport. Where local facilities are being provided which serve a local catchment, proximity to the bus network will be considered over and above the tube and train network. |
| MM24 | DMP E23 | Policy DM17: Travel Impact and Parking Standards | <p>1. The Council will expect development to provide parking in accordance with the London Plan standards, except in the case of residential development, where the maximum standards will be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i 2 to 1.5 spaces per unit for detached and semi detached houses and flats (4 or more bed) ii 1.5 to 1 spaces per unit for terraced houses and flats (2 to 3 bed); and iii 1 to less than 1 space per unit for development consisting mainly of flats (1 bed) |

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Barnet's Local Plan (Core Strategy)



Development
Plan Document
Adoption
Version



September
2012



Local Plan

Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Introduction | 1 |
| What are the Local Plan and the Core Strategy? | 1 |
| Purpose of Barnet's Core Strategy | 2 |
| Relationship of Barnet's Core Strategy to Area Action Plans for Colindale and Mill Hill East | 3 |
| Relationship of Barnet's Core Strategy to Brent Cross - Cricklewood Development Framework | 4 |
| Relationship of Barnet's Core Strategy to Neighbourhood Plans | 4 |
| 2. The strategic context for Barnet | 6 |
| Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2020 – One Barnet | 6 |
| Three Strands Approach – Protection, Enhancement and Consolidated Growth | 6 |
| One Barnet Programme | 7 |
| One Barnet Partnership Plan | 7 |
| Other Barnet strategies and plans | 9 |
| Barnet - voice of the suburbs | 9 |
| London Plan | 9 |
| North West London – Luton Corridor | 10 |
| Sustainability Appraisal | 10 |
| Equalities Impact Assessment | 11 |
| Monitoring | 11 |
| 3. Preparing Barnet's Core Strategy | 13 |
| Consultation | 13 |
| Evidence gathering – What makes Barnet distinctive? | 13 |
| Consideration of National and Regional Policy | 14 |
| Other Barnet plans and strategies | 14 |
| How is Barnet's Core Strategy structured? | 15 |
| 4. Barnet - the place | 16 |
| Barnet's character | 16 |
| Barnet's places | 16 |
| Barnet's people | 17 |
| Deprivation in Barnet | 18 |
| A safer Barnet | 18 |
| Barnet's economy | 19 |
| Homes in Barnet | 19 |
| Barnet's environment | 20 |
| Barnet's transport | 20 |
| Barnet's setting | 20 |
| Barnet and the arts, culture and creative industry | 21 |
| 5. The challenges we face | 22 |
| 6. Vision and objectives | 24 |
| Barnet's core objectives | 24 |
| 7. Barnet's place shaping strategy | 29 |
| Protection, enhancement and growth - The Three Strands approach | 29 |
| Consolidated growth | 29 |
| Protection | 41 |
| Enhancement | 42 |
| Brent Cross - Cricklewood regeneration area | 43 |
| 8. Distribution of housing growth | 46 |
| Mixed use development | 47 |
| Optimising housing density to achieve appropriate development | 47 |
| 9. Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet | 50 |
| Homes of different sizes | 50 |
| Supported housing | 52 |
| Addressing other housing needs | 53 |
| Lifetime Homes | 53 |
| Affordable homes | 54 |
| Gypsies and travellers | 56 |
| 10. Protecting and enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality places | 58 |
| Barnet's suburban character | 58 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Barnet's landscape character..... | 60 |
| Barnet's heritage..... | 62 |
| High quality places..... | 63 |
| Tall buildings and Barnet's skyline..... | 65 |
| Residential gardens..... | 68 |
| 11. Vibrant suburban town centres | 71 |
| Planning for sustainable economic growth..... | 71 |
| Barnet's distinctive town centres..... | 71 |
| Retail need and capacity - convenience goods..... | 73 |
| Retail need and capacity - comparison goods..... | 74 |
| Brent Cross - Cricklewood..... | 75 |
| Town centre frameworks..... | 75 |
| Neighbourhood centres and shopping parades..... | 77 |
| Role and function of town centres..... | 77 |
| Other town centre uses..... | 78 |
| Evening and night-time economy..... | 78 |
| Cinemas..... | 78 |
| Health and fitness clubs..... | 78 |
| Hotels..... | 79 |
| Markets and affordable retail units..... | 79 |
| 12. Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces | 82 |
| Barnet's Green Infrastructure..... | 82 |
| Barnet's parks..... | 85 |
| Children's play facilities..... | 85 |
| Playing pitches and outdoor sports..... | 87 |
| Natural and semi natural space..... | 87 |
| Green infrastructure and the Green Grid..... | 88 |
| Trees..... | 89 |
| Sustainable food production..... | 89 |
| 13. Promoting a Strong and Prosperous Barnet | 92 |
| Business opportunities and economic prosperity..... | 92 |
| Barnet's office market..... | 92 |
| Barnet's industrial land..... | 93 |
| Future employment growth..... | 93 |
| Safeguarding of employment land..... | 93 |
| Supporting local business..... | 94 |
| Further and higher education and skills training..... | 95 |
| 14. Providing safe effective and efficient travel | 98 |
| Getting around Barnet..... | 98 |
| Barnet's road network..... | 99 |
| Barnet's public transport network..... | 100 |
| Walking and cycling in Barnet..... | 101 |
| Promoting active travel and improving health..... | 102 |
| Investing in infrastructure..... | 102 |
| Ensuring more efficient use of the local road network..... | 103 |
| Taking a comprehensive approach to tackling the school run..... | 104 |
| Delivery of high quality transport systems in regeneration areas and town centres..... | 105 |
| More environmentally friendly transport networks..... | 106 |
| 15. More environmentally friendly transport networks..... | 108 |
| Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses..... | 109 |
| Introduction..... | 109 |
| One public sector approach..... | 109 |
| Barnet's Voluntary and Community Sector..... | 110 |
| Barnet's libraries..... | 110 |
| Leisure centres and swimming pools..... | 110 |
| Arts and culture..... | 110 |
| Provision for children and young people..... | 111 |
| Provision for older people..... | 112 |
| Provision for communities..... | 112 |
| 16. Improving health and well-being | 115 |
| Introduction..... | 115 |
| Addressing poor health and health inequalities..... | 116 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Clinical care | 118 |
| Residential care homes..... | 119 |
| 17. Making Barnet a safer place..... | 122 |
| 18. Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources | 124 |
| Introduction | 124 |
| Carbon Emissions Reduction Action Plan..... | 124 |
| Barnet's Waste Prevention Strategy | 124 |
| Sustainable design and construction | 124 |
| Reducing carbon emissions in new and existing development | 125 |
| Code for Sustainable Homes | 125 |
| Combined heat and power | 125 |
| Barnet's existing housing stock..... | 126 |
| Renewable energy | 127 |
| Choosing sustainable locations for development | 127 |
| Air and noise pollution..... | 127 |
| Flooding and water management..... | 128 |
| Water Quality and Supply | 129 |
| 19. Dealing with our waste | 131 |
| 20. Delivering the Core Strategy | 133 |
| Introduction | 133 |
| Working with our partners | 133 |
| Infrastructure delivery | 133 |
| Physical infrastructure..... | 134 |
| Social infrastructure | 134 |
| Green infrastructure | 134 |
| Community Infrastructure Levy | 134 |
| Planning obligations..... | 135 |
| Other Funding Mechanisms..... | 136 |
| Cross boundary working | 136 |
| North London - Luton corridor | 136 |
| Co-ordinating with neighbouring boroughs..... | 136 |
| Monitoring | 137 |
| 21. Appendix A – Brent Cross – Cricklewood | 139 |
| 22. Appendix B – Core Strategy Monitoring Indicators | 140 |
| 23. Appendix C – Core Strategy and Replacement of UDP Saved Policies (2006)..... | 151 |
| 24. Appendix D – Local Plan Glossary and List of Acronyms | 155 |

Foreword

We have developed this Core Strategy to guide planning, regeneration and redevelopment to enhance Barnet as an excellent suburb.

People choose to live in Barnet because of its clean and green environment, excellent schools, low levels of crime, good radial transport, public spaces and high quality housing.

Our philosophy is to ensure protection and enhancement of what is good, consolidation of building work in the pipeline and ensure the provision of supporting infrastructure. We will plan and control further re-development and manage change, throughout the borough for the benefit of residents.

The policies in the Core Strategy will shape our suburb in the future, help create attractive new buildings and neighbourhoods by providing us with the policy framework to restrict inappropriate increases in urbanisation.



**Councillor Richard Cornelius
Leader of Barnet Council**

List of Core Strategy policies

| | | |
|----------------|--|----------|
| Policy CS NPPF | <u>National Planning Policy Framework - Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</u> | Page 5 |
| Policy CS 1 | <u>Barnet's Place Shaping Strategy – The Three Strands Approach</u> | Page 42 |
| Policy CS 2 | <u>Brent Cross - Cricklewood</u> | Page 44 |
| Policy CS 3 | <u>Distribution of growth in meeting housing aspirations</u> | Page 47 |
| Policy CS 4 | <u>Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet</u> | Page 56 |
| Policy CS 5 | <u>Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality places</u> | Page 68 |
| Policy CS 6 | <u>Promoting Barnet's Town Centres</u> | Page 79 |
| Policy CS 7 | <u>Enhancing and Protecting Barnet's open Spaces</u> | Page 90 |
| Policy CS 8 | <u>Promoting a strong and prosperous Barnet</u> | Page 96 |
| Policy CS 9 | <u>Providing safe, effective and efficient travel</u> | Page 107 |
| Policy CS 10 | <u>Enabling inclusive integrated community facilities and uses</u> | Page 113 |
| Policy CS 11 | <u>Improving health and well-being in Barnet</u> | Page 120 |
| Policy CS 12 | <u>Making Barnet a safer place</u> | Page 123 |
| Policy CS 13 | <u>Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources</u> | Page 129 |
| Policy CS 14 | <u>Dealing with our waste</u> | Page 131 |
| Policy CS 15 | <u>Delivering the Core Strategy</u> | Page 137 |

1 Introduction

1.1 What are the Local Plan and the Core Strategy?

- 1.1.1 The Local Plan replaces the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (adopted May 2006). It embodies spatial planning – the practice of ‘place shaping’ to deliver positive social, economic and environmental outcomes and provide the overarching local policy framework for delivering sustainable development in Barnet. Barnet’s Local Plan provides a ‘folder’ of separate documents, the most important of which is the Core Strategy. This contains the ‘vision’ for the Local Plan and the most fundamental, cross-cutting objectives and policies that the local authority and its partners will seek to deliver.
- 1.1.2 Barnet’s Local Plan primarily consists of a suite of Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- the Core Strategy DPD which sets out the vision, objectives and related strategic policies;
 - the Site Allocations DPD which identifies future sites for development
 - the Development Management Policies DPD which sets out policy framework for decision making on planning applications
 - the Mill Hill East Area Action Plan DPD (adopted January 2009)
 - the Colindale Area Action Plan DPD (adopted March 2010)
 - the emerging North London Waste Plan DPD (submission early 2012)
 - a suite of ‘supplementary planning documents’ and ‘design guidance notes’ which provide more detailed guidance on determining planning applications and S106 requirements
 - the Local Development Scheme for Barnet which sets out the timetable for the above documents
 - the Statement of Community Involvement which sets out the principles on how Barnet will consult with the community
 - the Annual Monitoring Report which assesses the performance of the Local Plan and identifies significant trends affecting Barnet
- 1.1.3 Government policy towards spatial planning is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions. If a local interpretation of national planning policy is proposed, this must be justified. It is not necessary for the Core Strategy to repeat either national or London Plan policy.
- 1.1.4 The NPPF states that policies in Local Plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development, the golden thread running through both plan-making and decision taking. This approach makes clear that development which is sustainable can be approved without delay. Policy CS NPPF reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development.
- 1.1.5 Barnet’s Local Plan has been positively prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements and is consistent with achieving sustainable development.
- 1.1.6 In December 2010 the Coalition Government introduced the Localism Bill as part of its objective to shift power back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils and give local people a real share in growth. The Bill was enacted in November 2011.
- The main features of the Act are:
- introduction of new freedoms and flexibilities for local government
 - introduction of new rights and powers for communities and individuals

- reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective
 - reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally
- 1.1.7 The Localism Act introduces Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) known as Neighbourhood Plans, and for planning permission to be granted through Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDOs) and Community Right to Build Orders (CRBOs). The Government's focus on localism and devolution sets a national context for our aim through One Barnet to provide local leadership and joined up services across the public sector.
- 1.1.8 Further details on Neighbourhood Plans are set out in Table 1. The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 enable the production of Neighbourhood Plans.

Table 1 – Introduction of Neighbourhood Plans

| |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 'neighbourhood forums' may initiate NDPs and NDOs. These would apply to a 'neighbourhood area' - an area that a body which is or is capable of being defined as a 'neighbourhood forum' has asked to be designated as such by the council. ➤ Neighbourhood forums' must be designated by the council and must further the social, economic and environmental well-being of an area, be open to new members, have at least three members living in the area concerned, and have a written constitution. Only one forum can exist for a geographical area and it can only be designated if it applies to the council for designation. ➤ If asked to designate an area, the council must designate at least part of it. Existing areas can be modified when new areas are created, but they mustn't overlap. The council must provide any reasons for refusal to designate, and designations last for 5 years. ➤ NDPs can address as many or as few issues as the community wants. CLG has suggested that there may not be a great difference between AAPs and NDPs apart from the latter being more community focussed ➤ Local authorities can recover costs for setting up NDPs and NDOs, subject to regulation. They are required to advise and assist in making NDOs, but aren't required to give financial assistance. Local authorities are not required to consider repeat proposals. ➤ NDPs can only operate for one area and must specify their period of operation and be compliant with the strategic policies in the Local Plan, and EU and national law and guidance including the need for SEAs and any human rights issues. ➤ CRBOs are a type of NDO which grant planning consent for a specified small development on a specified site. The benefits of the development such as profits made from letting the homes, will stay within the community. ➤ Both NDOs and NDPs must be submitted to an examiner who will be an expert but not necessarily a Planning Inspector. If the examiner accepts the proposal it must be subjected to a referendum. Both the examiner and the local authority may prescribe the area that the referendum should cover and any registered voter in the referendum area will be able to vote. If more than 50% of voters are in favour then it will become part of the local development plan. If approved the council must set up the plan or order 'as soon as reasonably practicable'. ➤ A community organisation must have at least half its members living in the neighbourhood area concerned. But their application may refer to a site anywhere in the local authority's boundaries. |
|--|

1.2 Purpose of Barnet's Core Strategy

- 1.2.1 The Core Strategy will contribute to achieving the vision and objectives of Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy and will help our partners and other organisations to deliver relevant parts of their programmes. It will cover the physical aspects of location and land use traditionally covered by planning. It also addresses other factors that make places attractive and distinctive as well as sustainable and successful. It will help to shape the kind of place that Barnet will be in the future, balancing the needs of residents, businesses and future generations.

- 1.2.2 The Core Strategy should also accord with strategies and programmes which are the product of partnership working with members of Barnet's Local Strategic Partnership (the One Barnet Partnership Board) (Barnet College, CommUNITY Barnet, Metropolitan Police, Middlesex University and NHS Barnet). The Core Strategy should not conflict unnecessarily with the plans of neighbouring London boroughs and adjacent local authorities in Hertfordshire.
- 1.2.3 The Core Strategy must also be shown to be viable and flexible so as to allow for future changes in circumstances, including different policy frameworks or changes to the local, regional or national economy. This is important as the current economic climate presents significant challenges for place shaping. When investment in house building and job creation starts to flow again the Core Strategy will provide the framework and certainty that will attract capital investment to Barnet allowing us to guide and steer investment in ways that the community has signed up to.
- 1.2.4 We have considered the responses we have received to extensive consultation since 2008 and together with the background evidence, the sustainability appraisal (see below), the London Plan and the national planning framework provided by Planning Policy Statements/Guidance (both emerging and adopted) we have produced the Core Strategy.
- 1.2.5 In order to look forward over fifteen years the Core Strategy has been produced using the most up to date and relevant information available. This is outlined in our published Local Plan evidence base (as listed at para 3.2.1). This evidence will be kept under review.

1.3 Relationship of Barnet's Core Strategy to Area Action Plans for Colindale and Mill Hill East

- 1.3.1 The former London Plan (2008) identified Colindale (201 hectares) as an Opportunity Area with a minimum target of 10,000 new homes and 500 new jobs delivered between 2001 and 2026. The London Plan (July 2011) identifies the wider Colindale / Burnt Oak Opportunity Area comprising 262 hectares of land in Barnet and Brent as having capacity for a minimum of 2,000 jobs and a minimum housing target of 12,500 new homes between 2011 and 2031. Opportunity Areas have been identified in the adopted London Plan on the basis that they have significant capacity to accommodate new housing, commercial and other development linked to existing or potential improvements to public transport accessibility. The planning framework for Colindale is set out in the Area Action Plan adopted in March 2010. The AAP sets a target of 9,800 new homes by 2021 and a minimum of 1,000 jobs.
- 1.3.2 The former London Plan (2008) also identified Mill Hill East (48 hectares) as an Area for Intensification with a minimum target of 3,500 new homes and 500 new jobs delivered between 2001 and 2026. The London Plan (July 2011) identifies Mill Hill East as having capacity for a minimum of 1,800 jobs and a minimum housing target of 2,100 new homes between 2011 and 2031. The planning framework for Mill Hill East is set out in the Area Action Plan adopted in January 2009. The AAP sets a target of 2,000 new homes by 2024 and a minimum of 500 jobs.
- 1.3.3 In order to support early delivery of housing, we decided, in agreement with advice from the Greater London Authority (GLA) and the former Government Office for London, to prepare both the Colindale and Mill Hill East Area Action Plans ahead of this borough-wide Core Strategy.
- 1.3.4 In common with the Core Strategy the AAPs have been prepared in the full light of Barnet's place shaping and corporate regeneration strategy, the 'Three Strands Approach'. With the London Plan providing the regional spatial strategy for both the AAPs and the Core Strategy, both have been prepared within the same strategic and corporate policy context which will ensure conformity and consistency.

1.4 Relationship of Barnet's Core Strategy to Brent Cross - Cricklewood Development Framework

- 1.4.1 The former London Plan (2008) identified Brent Cross Cricklewood (323 hectares) as an Opportunity Area with a minimum target of 20,000 jobs and 10,000 homes delivered between 2001 and 2026. The London Plan (July 2011) identifies Brent Cross Cricklewood as having capacity for 20,000 jobs and a minimum housing target of 10,000 new homes between 2011 and 2031.
- 1.4.2 In December 2005 together with the Mayor of London we adopted the Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework as Supplementary Planning Guidance. This Development Framework was produced in collaboration with the GLA, other stakeholders and the Brent Cross Cricklewood Development Partners. The Development Framework, which is highlighted as an adopted Opportunity Area Development Framework (OAPF) in Annex One of the London Plan, was produced to guide and inform design and delivery of development with the aim of achieving high quality comprehensive redevelopment of the area around a new sustainable mixed use town centre spanning the North Circular Road.
- 1.4.3 A partnership of key landowners and developers (Brent Cross - Cricklewood Development Partners) submitted in March 2008 a hybrid (part outline / part full) planning application for the comprehensive regeneration of the area. This has included extensive pre and post application consultation with the council and its partners, the GLA, Transport for London, the Highways Agency, the Environment Agency and other agencies and stakeholders including the local community. In November 2009 the council resolved to approve the outline application subject to completion of a Section 106 Agreement.
- 1.4.4 In March 2010 the Mayor of London stated that he was content for Barnet to determine the application, subject to the decision of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government. In June 2010 the Secretary of State informed the council that he considered that as the application did not raise issues of more than local importance it would be appropriate for the local authority to determine it. As a result of the completion of the Section 106 Agreement, planning permission was issued in October 2010.
- 1.4.5 The Development Framework was prepared in parallel with the development of UDP policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood as listed in Appendix A. This suite of UDP policies were saved by the Direction issued by the Secretary of State on May 13 2009. In view of the progress that has been made towards the implementation of the saved UDP policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood we consider that it is inappropriate at this time to replace them. In order to provide a policy framework to secure the future comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross Cricklewood these 'saved' policies will continue to operate until it is considered appropriate to replace them. These policies within the saved UDP shall continue to be part of the development plan.
- 1.4.6 Monitoring indicators for the Brent Cross – Cricklewood policy set out in Appendix B will have regard to the progress made in the implementation and delivery of regeneration. The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme and may, if necessary or appropriate, lead to introduction of new DPD or SPD to further guide and control the comprehensive regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood.

1.5 Relationship of Barnet's Core Strategy to Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.5.1 We envisage that Neighbourhood Plans (as set out in Table 1) will emerge in Barnet and be prepared by local communities with our support and advice. The Neighbourhood Plan must be in general conformity with the Core Strategy.

- 1.5.2 The purpose of the Localism Bill is to promote growth by enabling communities to share in the proceeds of growth through New Homes Bonus (see para 20.9.3) and Community Infrastructure Levy (see section 20.7) and through encouraging participation, empowering communities to plan their own areas.

Policy CS NPPF - National Planning Policy Framework - Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

When considering development proposals we will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

We will always work proactively with applicants jointly to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in Barnet.

Planning applications that accord with policies in Barnet’s Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision then the council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:

- Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF taken as a whole; or
- Specific policies in that NPPF indicate that development should be restricted.

Key References

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2020 ➤ Brent Cross, Cricklewood, and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005 ➤ Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010 ➤ Core Strategy and Development Management Policies - Consultation Report ➤ Local Development Scheme ➤ Localism Bill, December 2010 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ London Plan, 2011 ➤ London Plan (Consolidated with Alterations since 2004) 2008 ➤ Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009 ➤ National Planning Policy Framework ➤ Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 ➤ One Barnet Framework, LB Barnet Cabinet November 29 2010 ➤ Statement of Community Involvement, 2007 ➤ Three Strands Approach |
|---|--|

2 The strategic context for Barnet

2.1 Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 - 2020 – One Barnet

2.1.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy is the 'umbrella strategy' for all the plans and strategies of our key partners. The Local Strategic Partnership (One Barnet Partnership Board) has revised the borough's Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for the period 2010 to 2020. One Barnet sets out the strategic vision for Barnet as a place and provides the vehicle for considering and deciding how to address difficult cross-cutting issues such as maintaining the quality of life that makes the borough an attractive place to live.

2.1.2 Our SCS identifies Barnet as a strong civic society in which people do things for themselves rather than wait for state support. Levels of voluntary activity are high and people take pride in their communities and have high levels of identity with them. Strong civic society is Barnet's core value and the foundation stone for the following values which make Barnet distinctive :

- Strength in Diversity
- Sharing Opportunities for Success
- Choice and Responsibility
- Protecting what we value
- Embracing change where we need to

2.1.3 To achieve these goals our public services work together as One Barnet to deliver efficiencies, provide seamless customer services and develop a shared insight into needs and priorities, driving commissioning of services and making difficult choices about where to prioritise them. The following priorities reflect what residents and partners have told us our the most important issues for them and the most relevant to achieving the vision:

- A Successful London Suburb
- Stronger Safe Communities for everyone
- Investing in Children, Young People and their Families
- Healthy and Independent Living

2.1.4 Our spatial vision as a successful London suburb is highlighted in Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy and delivered through the One Barnet programme. Table 2 sets out how the priorities of the SCS are reflected in the Core Strategy.

2.1.5 From 2011/12 our 'One Barnet' approach will help local strategic partners to demonstrate the key short-term priorities we will be working on to ensure we are moving in the right direction to deliver the SCS vision.

2.2 Three Strands Approach – Protection, Enhancement and Consolidated Growth

2.2.1 The council and its partners have a prominent role in place-shaping and Barnet's spatial development priorities are currently defined in the innovative Three Strands Approach to planning, development and regeneration. The purpose of the Core Strategy is to guide the growth identified in the borough to ensure that the qualities that make Barnet an attractive place to live are maintained and enhanced. Three Strands provides the spatial vision that underpins the Core Strategy and the Local Plan. The three strands are:

- **Strand 1.** Absolute protection of the Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and other valued open space from inappropriate development
- **Strand 2.** Enhancement and protection of Barnet's suburbs, town centres and historic areas
- **Strand 3.** Consolidated growth in areas in need of renewal and investment.

2.2.2 The Core Strategy sets out the major areas across the borough where development and regeneration is expected and the policies developed for them.

2.2.3 The Three Strands Approach allows for consolidated growth in housing and employment to be accommodated within Barnet's existing built up area. Where there is already planned

or approved pipeline growth this is consolidated in areas in need of renewal and investment and where regeneration delivers significant and lasting economic and wider benefits to communities in Barnet.

- 2.2.4 Consolidated growth concentrates new development in the most accessible locations around public transport nodes and town centres where social and physical infrastructure is to be improved. This broad approach can meet the sustainable design principles for a compact city. It can make the best use of development sites, respect the local character of the built and green environment, provide for a mix of uses, and be safe, attractive and accessible to all users. It can also help adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change. Most importantly, the green belt and the one-third of the borough that comprises green open spaces, is protected from future urbanisation and development to ensure a high quality suburb.
- 2.2.5 The Core Strategy is our key planning document. The accompanying Development Management Policies DPD complements the Core Strategy and provides more detailed policy considerations to **Strand 1** and **Strand 2**.

2.3 One Barnet Programme

- 2.3.1 Barnet initiated its One Barnet (formerly known as Future Shape) Programme in 2008 in order to address a number of challenges that the council was facing including increasing customer demands, providing more services with less money, static public satisfaction and intractable problems such as disadvantage where public expenditure seemed to have little effect. These problems have been exacerbated by the global recession.
- 2.3.2 The basis of One Barnet is the following three key principles :
- One public sector approach – working together in a more joined up way with our public sector partners to deliver better services
 - Relentless drive for efficiency – delivering more choice for better value
 - New relationship with citizens – enabling residents to help one another to access the information and support they need
- 2.3.3 The aim of One Barnet is to become a citizen centred organisation. As part of One Barnet we are working with our public sector partners to share resources, including customer services and our property assets, and work together to achieve economies of scale. We are setting up a Customer Service Organisation to consolidate access services across the council. This will then be extended to other public sector partners.
- 2.3.4 In developing a new relationship with citizens we are encouraging self-help and behaviour change. This means that we will provide a better service, putting citizens at the heart of what we do. In return they will do what they can for themselves, their families and their community. This new relationship helps to release resources to help those most in need of public services. Sharing intelligence across the public sector will inform decision making and help shape services to meet the needs of customers. With improved insight we will develop a shared understanding across the council and partner organisations of what life is like for residents and businesses in Barnet and be able to identify the future challenges and our readiness to address them.
- 2.3.5 Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) forms a key part of the Local Plan evidence base. It creates a valued dataset for successfully implementing a One Barnet approach. The dataset enables the council and its partners to understand how we will shape the future of Barnet.

2.4 Barnet Corporate Plan

- 2.4.1 Our Corporate Plan sits beneath Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy. This ten-year vision entitled 'One Barnet' was developed between the council and its partners defining the distinctive values we share, and the outcomes we are all working towards and which we believe will make the borough an even better place to live. Our aspiration is that all Barnet's public services are working together to achieve these strategic ambitions for the

borough and our residents. But our challenge remains the same – to provide better services for our residents at a time of increasing population, rising expectations and reduced public budgets. Using this approach, we will continue to address this challenge by:

- focusing relentlessly on efficiency to ensure every public pound is spent wisely;
- redefining a new relationship with citizens so that they can work with us as part of a ‘Big Society’ taking responsibility themselves where they can;
- working seamlessly with partners to develop a new public sector approach which will require us to better co-ordinate our work and exploit the efficiencies and benefits of joint working.

All public services face challenges of reduced budgets, finding new solutions to tackling long-standing problems and addressing customer satisfaction. Barnet’s Corporate Plan plays an integral role in driving the transformation of local public services. The Corporate Plan is set within the context of the strategic aspirations of Barnet’s Sustainable Community Strategy.

2.4.2 The Corporate Plan contains three priorities:

- **Better services with less money**
- **Sharing opportunities and sharing responsibilities**
- **Successful London suburb**

2.4.3 All three priorities in the Barnet Corporate Plan are embedded within the Core Strategy:

- In providing better services with less money the Core Strategy addresses the need to:
 - make more efficient use of our community assets in order to improve service delivery. Further integration of services such as libraries and children’s centres in ‘hubs’ is highlighted as the way forward;
 - establish the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) as the replacement for S106 funding and set out the evidence on infrastructure requirements in an Infrastructure Delivery Plan which forms the basis for a CIL charging schedule
- In sharing opportunities and sharing responsibilities the Core Strategy addresses the need to :
 - provide increased housing choice in mixed communities including extra care housing and the need for lifetime homes in order to promote independence and to support vulnerable adults;
 - enable children and young people to develop skills and acquire the knowledge to lead successful adult lives through our programme for improvements to the schools estate, provision of children's centres and commissioning of youth services;
 - improve delivery of primary health care provision as well as targeting unhealthy lifestyles and tackling health inequalities, educating citizens to their own responsibilities
- In enabling Barnet to continue to be a successful London Suburb the Core Strategy addresses the need to :
 - protect and enhance our natural environment through provision of new, improved, multi-functional and accessible green spaces that form part of a Londonwide green grid;
 - protect and enhance our built environment by ensuring that development respects local context and Barnet’s distinctive local character;
 - ensure that a mix of compatible uses is provided in vibrant town centres including retail, housing and affordable and flexible workspace for business;
 - make Barnet a safer place and through our programme of town centre frameworks turn our town centres into places which people want to visit and spend time and money in;

- support integration and cohesion between established communities and the new communities in the growth areas ;
- support the plans of NHS Barnet and from 2013 its successors to deliver modern primary care

2.5 Other Barnet strategies and plans

2.5.1 The Core Strategy also reflects the spatial dimensions of a range of other plans and strategies which support Barnet's wider priorities. These include the Children and Young People's Plan, Older People's Commissioning Strategy, Housing Strategy, Health and Well-being Commissioning Framework, Regeneration Strategy and the Safer Communities Strategy. These policies, programmes and strategies have all been considered as important markers in the development of the Core Strategy and form part of the evidence base.

2.6 Barnet - voice of the suburbs

2.6.1 Barnet has been a key player in researching and developing national, regional and local policy on successful city-suburbs and their key role in the wider city economy. Barnet has led the thinking on a range of suburban issues in London. Working with the Leadership Centre for Local Government the "State of the Suburbs" report was published in May 2007. This highlights the strengths of the suburbs, including the relatively high quality of the suburban environment, high skills level and the generally high quality of life.

2.6.2 Barnet has also contributed to the London Councils report "Successful Suburbs – the Case for Investment in London's Suburban Communities" published in March 2009. This highlighted that the case for investment in our suburbs is not a case for the movement of existing investment from inner priority areas to outer London; it is about unlocking the potential of suburbs to contribute more to the performance of the capital as a whole. The Successful Suburbs Report identified unlocking the potential of the following for investment:

- Revitalising economic activity in the suburbs - particularly the focus on improving town centres
- Investing in infrastructure to meet a changing and growing population - particularly the investment in community and health facilities and in transport
- Reducing the suburb's carbon footprint through, in particular, focussing on behaviour change

These priorities are reflected throughout our Core Strategy.

2.7 London Plan

2.7.1 The adopted London Plan, published in July 2011, provides the Londonwide context for borough planning policies. This is the statutory development plan for the borough and the starting point for decisions on planning applications. The Core Strategy must have cognisance of this strategic background and be in general conformity with it as well as being consistent with national planning guidance.

2.7.2 The Mayor has put forward a vision for the sustainable development of London up to 2031. The Mayor's vision is that London should excel among global cities – expanding opportunities for all its people and enterprises, achieving the highest environmental standards and quality of life and leading the world in its approach to tackling the urban challenges of the 21st century, particularly that of climate change.

2.7.3 The Mayor's vision is supported by the following six detailed objectives which ensure London is

- A city that meets the challenges of economic and population growth
- An internationally competitive and successful city
- A city of diverse, strong, secure and accessible neighbourhoods

- A city that delights the senses
- A city that becomes a world leader in improving the environment
- A city where it is easy, safe and convenient for everyone to access jobs, opportunities and facilities

2.7.4 In 2008 the Mayor established the Outer London Commission to examine the extent to which the Outer London boroughs can contribute to the economic success of London as a whole, identify the factors which are holding them back from making that contribution and make recommendations to be taken forward in the London Plan and the Mayor's other Strategies on Economic Development and Transport. The Commission's Interim Conclusions were published in July 2009 and were taken into account by the Mayor in the London Plan.

2.7.5 Outer London is where 60 per cent of Londoners live and where over 40 per cent of London's jobs are located. The London Plan seeks a more dispersed and polycentric pattern of development in London focused on a network of town centres. Such dispersal can help address the pressures on the transport network into central London created by the imbalance between where people live and where they work. The London Plan sets out a vision and strategy for Outer London recognising the diversity of the area and its key contribution to the quality of life in London as a whole. A high quality of life is essential to London's future success. Providing places where people will want to work and live, will be important to attracting and retaining the kind of economic sectors which may lift growth in Outer London.

2.8 North West London – Luton Corridor

2.8.1 Barnet does not sit in isolation. In the production of this Core Strategy we have taken account of our relationship with neighbouring authorities in London and Hertfordshire as well as those areas with whom we share transport links. The spatial context for Barnet is provided in Map 1.

2.8.2 The concept of the North West London to Luton Corridor and links between Brent Cross / Wembley / Kings Cross and out to Bedfordshire provides a basis for coordinated working between the relevant local authorities and key agencies including Transport for London. The London element of the corridor is currently projected to deliver approximately 100,000 new jobs to 2026 (London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, January 2009). Improving transport links along the corridor will be vital to facilitating this anticipated growth in employment.

2.9 Sustainability Appraisal

2.9.1 We need to carry out a sustainability appraisal of the Core Strategy and other relevant Local Plan documents. This promotes sustainable strategies and policies through an assessment of their environmental, social and economic impacts. It helps us to identify and minimise any potential harmful impacts of our strategy and policies and to maximise the beneficial impacts.

2.9.2 As the first stage of the sustainability appraisal of the Core Strategy we prepared a Scoping Report, which looked at the baseline information and relevant plans, policies and programmes. This was sent to statutory consultees for comment in line with the Regulations. Following this we have carried out an appraisal of the options considered in Core Strategy Issues and Options, Direction of Travel and Publication (Pre-Submission) Stage. This has been followed by a final appraisal of the Core Strategy.

2.9.3 We also carried out a screening assessment of the Core Strategy to ascertain its impact on sites of European importance for habitats or species. The screening assessment found that no significant effects were likely. Therefore we have not carried out a Task Two (Appropriate Assessment) of the Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment process.

2.10 Equalities Impact Assessment

- 2.10.1 We have also undertaken an Equalities Impact Assessment of the Core Strategy in order to highlight the likely impact on identified key equalities groups (in terms of race, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation and faith) who are considered to be at particular risk of discrimination and inequality of opportunity. The Equalities Impact Assessment has found that the Core Strategy does not create any adverse impacts for any of the identified groups.

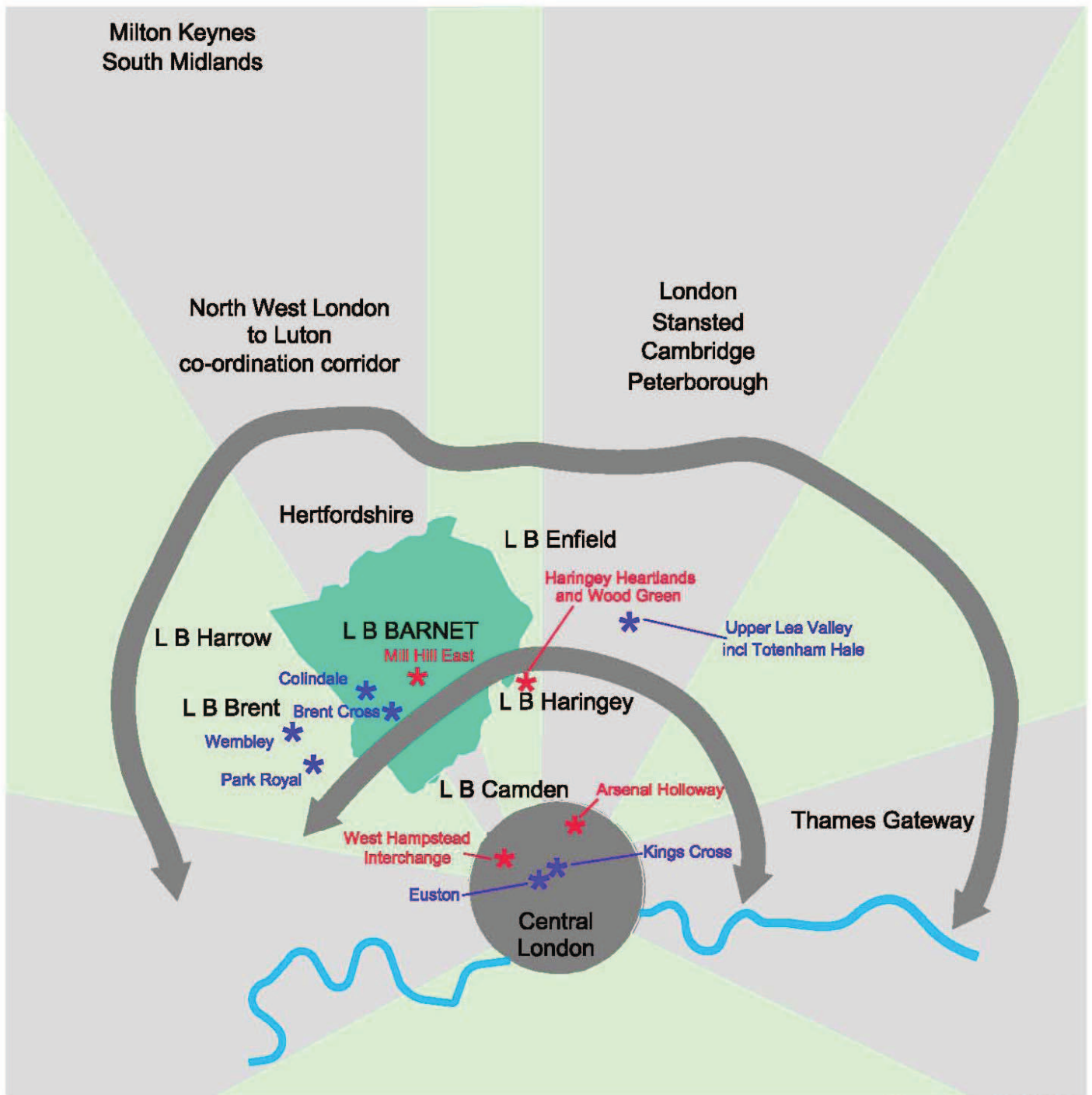
2.11 Monitoring

- 2.11.1 The Core Strategy is not a static document. Monitoring mechanisms make it a living document that is capable of being changed in part or in full. We will monitor the effectiveness of the Core Strategy in delivering its objectives by assessing its performance against a series of indicators. A number of indicators will be included for each policy in the Core Strategy. These are set out in Appendix B. Each year we publish an Annual Monitoring Report. This will:
- assess the performance of the Core Strategy and other Local Plan documents following their adoption
 - identify the need to reassess or review any policies or approaches
 - make sure the context and assumptions behind our approach are still relevant; and
 - identify trends in the wider social, economic and environmental issues facing Barnet.



Key References

- | | |
|--|--|
| ➤ Annual Monitoring Reports. | ➤ Infrastructure Delivery Plan |
| ➤ Barnet Children and Young People's Plan | ➤ London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009 |
| ➤ Barnet Health and Well-being Commissioning Framework | ➤ London Plan, 2011 |
| ➤ Barnet Housing Strategy | ➤ One Barnet Framework, LB Barnet Cabinet November 29 2010 |
| ➤ Barnet Older Adults Strategy | ➤ Outer London Commission – Interim Conclusions, 2009 |
| ➤ Barnet Safer Communities Strategy | ➤ State of the Suburbs, Local Future Group, 2007 |
| ➤ Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 – 2020 | ➤ Successful Suburbs – the Case for Investment in London's Suburban Communities, London Councils, 2009 |
| ➤ Core Strategy – Equalities Impact Assessment | ➤ Three Strands Approach |
| ➤ Core Strategy – Habitats Regulations Assessment | |
| ➤ Core Strategy – Sustainability Appraisal | |

Map 1 – Spatial context for Barnet



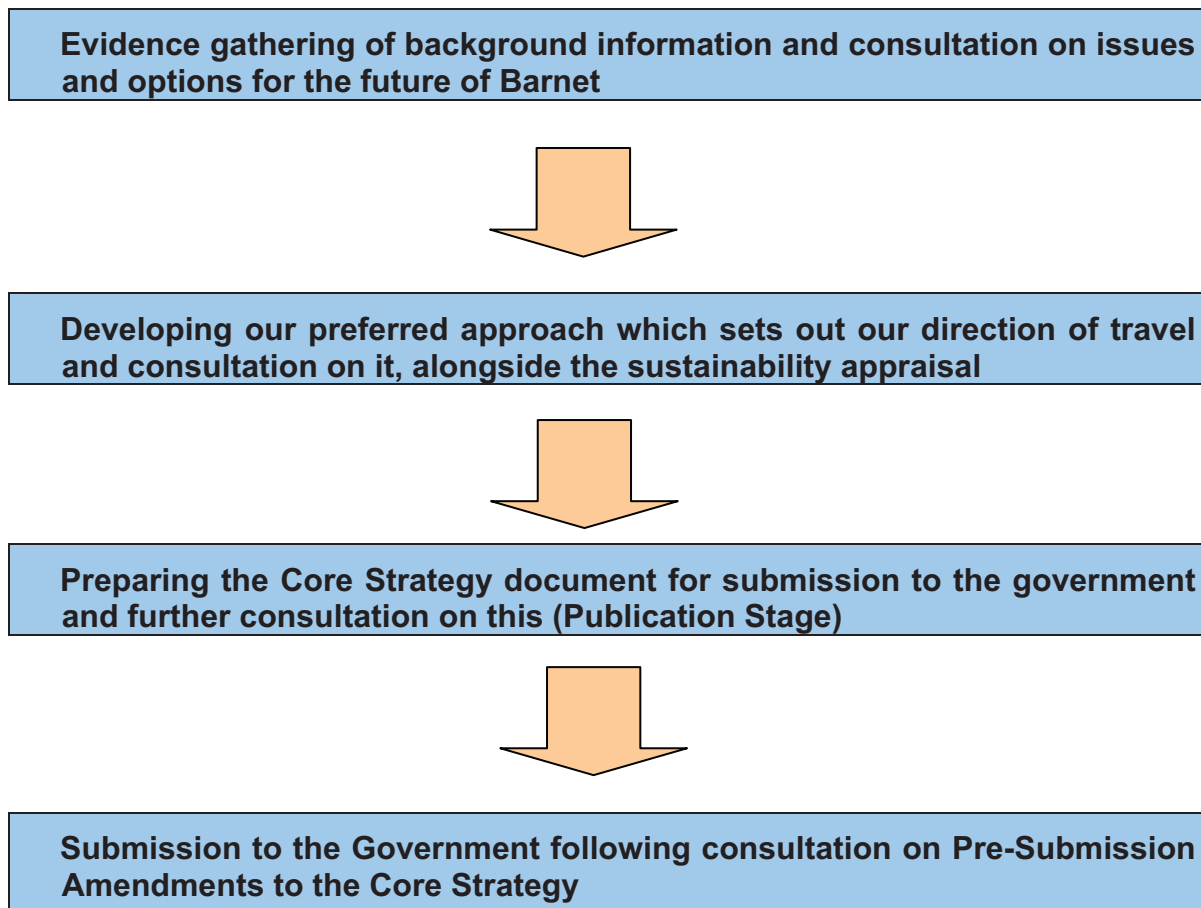
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| KEY | |
|---|--|
|  | Opportunity Areas as defined in the London Plan |
|  | Areas of Intensification as defined in the London Plan |

3 Preparing Barnet's Core Strategy

3.1 Consultation

- 3.1.1 The process for preparing the Core Strategy, included four rounds of public consultation, is set out in the table below.



- 3.1.2 The Core Strategy has been developed on the basis of:
- **What you told us** – the response to consultation on Barnet’s Core Strategy. This is set out in the Core Strategy Consultation Report
 - **What the evidence shows** – the picture presented by the studies we have commissioned or evidence we have collected
 - **What is happening at the national and regional level** – our approach must be consistent with national planning guidance and the London Plan, unless we have strong evidence that a different approach is more appropriate
 - **What is happening with Barnet’s Sustainable Community Strategy and other boroughwide strategies** produced by the council and its partners such as the Barnet Children and Young People’s Plan, Older People’s Commissioning Strategy, Housing Strategy, Health and Well-being Commissioning Framework, Regeneration Strategy and the Safer Communities Strategy

3.2 Evidence gathering – What makes Barnet distinctive?

- 3.2.1 It is important that our strategy for the future development of the borough is based on an understanding of the characteristics that make Barnet what it is, and a knowledge of how it is likely to change. We have been collecting information from many sources to help us identify the key issues and opportunities for the future of the borough and provide a strong

basis for our planning strategy and policies. (This information is usually known as the “evidence base”).

3.2.2 Barnet's published evidence base for the Core Strategy includes, but is not limited to, the following –

- Barnet Affordable Housing Viability Assessment
- Barnet’s Annual Monitoring Reports
- Barnet Characterisation Study
- Barnet Community Buildings Needs Assessment
- Barnet Employment Land Review
- Barnet Heat Map
- Barnet Housing Needs Study 2006
- Barnet Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Barnet Open Spaces, Sport and Recreational Facilities Needs Assessment
- Barnet Tall Buildings Study
- Barnet Town Centres Floorspace Needs Assessment and 2010 Update
- Barnet Transport Review
- BRE Housing Stock Model Update for Barnet 2009
- Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal
- Crime, Disorder and Substance Misuse Strategic Assessment
- Demographic information including Census data and GLA projections
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Health and Social Care
- London Biodiversity Action Plan
- London Regional Landscape Framework
- London Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
- London Town Centre Health Check Analysis Report
- North London Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
- North London Strategic Housing Market Assessment
- State of the Borough Report

3.3 Consideration of National and London Plan Policy

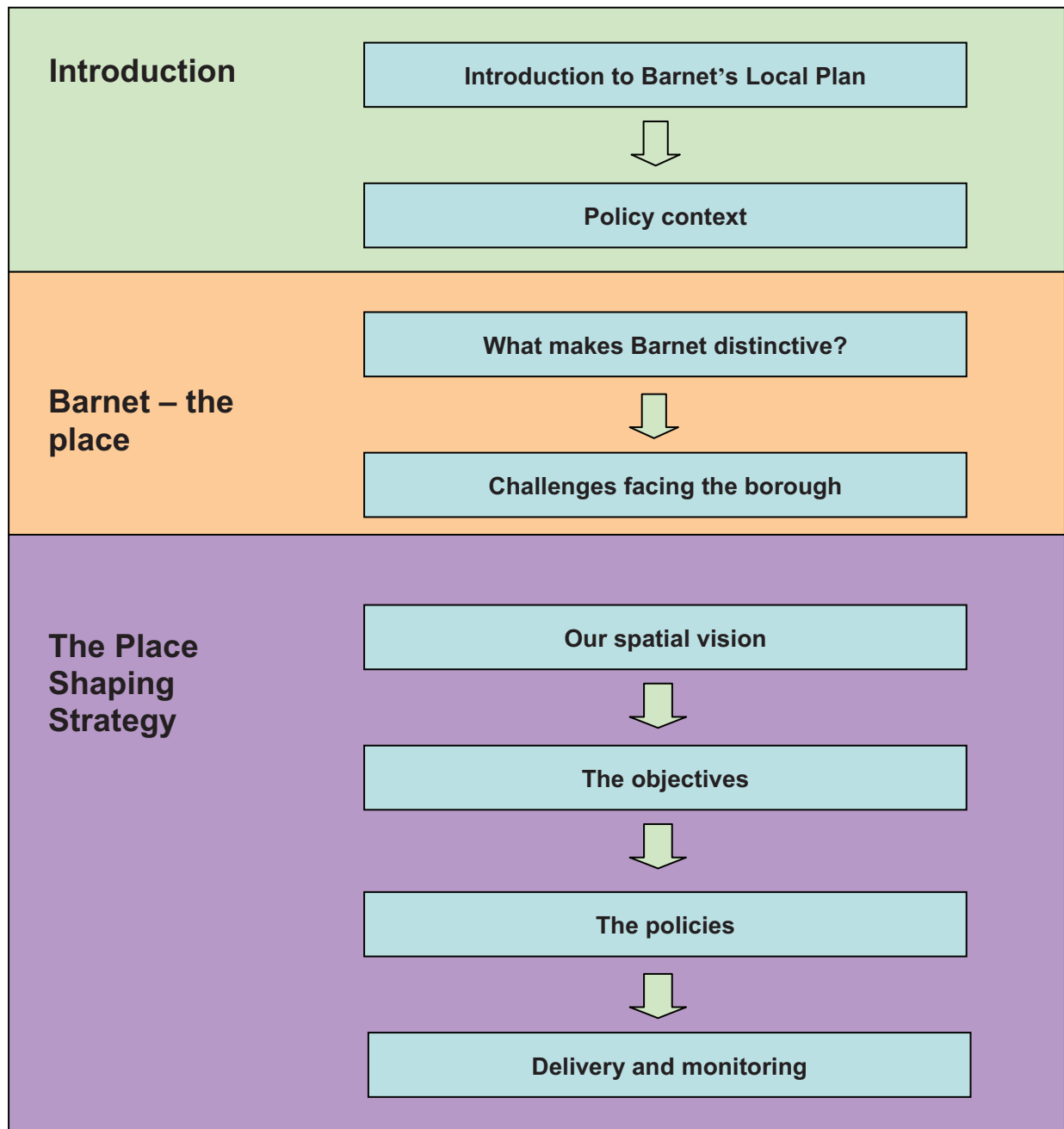
3.3.1 National planning policy is set out the National Planning Policy Framework. The Core Strategy must be consistent with national planning policy unless we have strong evidence that an alternative approach is more appropriate in Barnet.

3.3.2 The Mayor of London’s London Plan sets a social, economic and environmental framework for the future development of the city, providing the Londonwide context for borough planning policies. Our Local Plan documents must be in general conformity with the London Plan.

3.4 Other Barnet plans and strategies

3.4.1 As highlighted earlier the Core Strategy needs to take into account other plans and strategies that influence the future of Barnet. It contributes to achieving the vision in the Sustainable Community Strategy and other strategies of the council and its main partners. The Core Strategy aims to translate the vision of the Sustainable Community Strategy into a set of priorities and policies to shape the way we want a future Barnet to be and create a framework for delivery.

3.5 How is Barnet’s Core Strategy structured?



Key References

- Annual Monitoring Reports
- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy, 2010 – 2020
- Core Strategy and Development Management Policies - Consultation Report
- Local Plan Evidence Base (as set out at para 3.22)
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework

4 Barnet - the place

4.1 Barnet's character

- 4.1.1 Barnet comprises a variety of townscapes, many attractive and reflecting the long history of settlements, influenced by topography and the pattern of transport routes. Large parts of the borough are designated as Conservation Areas in order to reflect their special character and value. Much of the borough has been developed as low density suburbs with the average density of 36 persons per hectare, the 8th lowest in London.
- 4.1.2 Barnet has a rich architectural heritage which includes the only Historic Battlefield (Battle of Barnet – 1471) in London. Nearly forty sites of archaeological importance containing prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains have been identified across the borough. Barnet contains 2,206 buildings on the Statutory List of Buildings (of which 2 are Grade 1, 76 are Grade 2* and 2168 are Grade 2), two Scheduled Ancient Monuments at Brockley Hill in Edgware and Manor House in Finchley, three registered Historic Parks and Gardens at St Marylebone Cemetery, Avenue House Gardens and Golders Green Crematorium.
- 4.1.3 To appreciate Barnet's character it is necessary to understand how it has grown in the last 150 years from a population of 6,400 living in villages in the mid 19th century to one of 345,800 residents living in a successful London suburb in 2010. One of the key features of Barnet is its topography, a rolling landscape of valleys and ridges cut out by tributaries of the Thames. The north of the borough forms the high points of the Thames Basin and three ridgelines run broadly east to west across the top of the borough through Chipping Barnet, Totteridge and Mill Hill. A fourth ridgeline runs north-south through Whetstone down towards Hampstead Heath, the route of the Great North Road.
- 4.1.4 In the first half of the twentieth century development spread from established commuter settlements such as Chipping Barnet, New Barnet, Friern Barnet and Finchley with suburban housing transforming the landscapes of Edgware and Hendon as well as the south of the borough. Boundaries between settlements became blurred and a continuous residential sprawl from Chipping Barnet to the south of the Borough became evident. After 1945 settlements expanded more gradually based on increased car ownership and expansion of the bus and trolleybus network. The introduction of the Green Belt in 1947 halted development around New Barnet and Chipping Barnet as well as restricting growth at Mill Hill and Totteridge. This set the scene for the borough in the present day.
- 4.1.5 Reflecting the level of post war growth the population reached a post war peak of 319,000 in 1951 and declined in the second half of the twentieth century to 290,000 in 1981. Only recently has Barnet's population exceeded the levels of 1951.

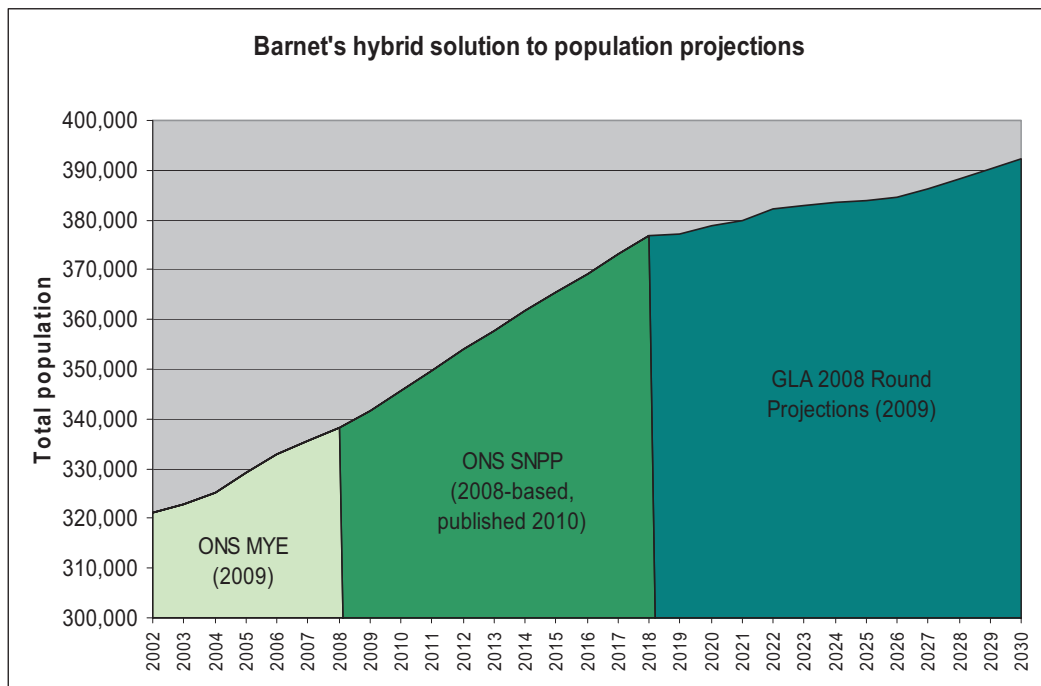
4.2 Barnet's places

- 4.2.1 Barnet is the fourth largest London borough by area (86.7 sq km) and home to a growing and diverse population. About 38% of the borough is undeveloped, 28% is designated green belt and 8% is metropolitan open land (which includes around 200 parks, allotments, playing fields and agricultural land).
- 4.2.2 The rest of the borough is made up of suburban areas with a population density of 38.63 people per hectare. This is lower than for London as a whole (48.12 people per hectare but nearly ten times the figure for England (3.94 people per hectare). Density ranges from 17.66 people per hectare in Totteridge ward to 81.77 people per hectare in Burnt Oak ward.
- 4.2.3 We expect significant growth in Barnet's population and economy over the next twenty years. Work is well under way on planning of the Opportunity Areas (Brent Cross - Cricklewood and Colindale) and Area of Intensification (Mill Hill East) identified in the London Plan. The development of these areas is expected to deliver over 16,000 new homes by 2026.

4.3 Barnet's people

4.3.1 According to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid year estimate for 2008 Barnet has a population of 338,100. According to ONS projections Barnet is now the most populous borough in London with an estimated population of 345,800 residents in 2010. This is further reinforced by the State of the Borough Report which estimates 349,800 residents in 2011. Barnet is the tenth largest single tier authority in England and Wales. Based on GLA figures which factor in the house building growth Barnet's population is projected to reach 384,600 by 2026, an increase of 14% on present levels.

4.3.2 It is estimated that 7.5% of the population are new to Barnet each year through birth or immigration. Natural increase (the difference between the number of births and deaths) is the most significant contributor to Barnet's growth. According to ONS data for 2009 there



were 5,300 live births in Barnet. Only Newham, Ealing and Wandsworth have a higher level of births. With 2,400 deaths in 2009 this amounts to an Natural Increase of 2,900.

4.3.3 People are also leaving Barnet. The North London Strategic Housing Market Assessment estimates that 475 households per annum move out mainly towards Hertfordshire.

4.3.4 Barnet's population will change our existing communities, attracting a much younger and diverse population. Over the next ten years there will be a marked increase in the number of children aged between 5-14 years old and number of people over the age of 65.

4.3.5 In 2010, 13.8 per cent of the local population is estimated to be over 65. By 2015, that cohort is expected to grow by 5,400 individuals –double the average rate of growth for the borough (11.3% compared to an average of 5.7%). The increase in the proportion of the population over 90 is even more significant, with that cohort projected to grow by a third between 2010 and 2015. Significant growth is also expected within the 45-59 year old age group.

4.3.6 However, growth is not limited to the older residents – the rising birth rate of recent years also means that there is above average growth in Barnet's younger population (most significantly ages five to nine), as the babies of the end of the last decade gradually work their way through the age bands. Barnet has the second largest population of children and young people in London. This age group is more diverse than the adult population. About 40% of primary school pupils in the borough and 37% of secondary school pupils have English as a second language.

- 4.3.7 Despite this boom in the youngest residents, the borough is expected to experience a general decline in older children and young adults (15 to 24 year olds). After a spike in the 25 to 29 year old cohort there is another relative decline in the 35 to 44 year old group. This decline is likely to be a consequence of young professionals leaving London having gained the experience they wanted and/or being priced out of the borough's housing market as they think about starting a family.
- 4.3.8 Nearly a third of Barnet's population belongs to a black or minority ethnic group. Projections are that this will grow to 36% by 2018. Barnet has the largest Jewish community in the UK and one of the largest populations of Chinese. Around 170 first languages are spoken in Barnet's schools. After English the next most used languages are Gujarati, Farsi and Somali.
- 4.3.9 Barnet has a historical legacy of new communities being welcomed and feeling involved. Nearly 84% of residents agreed in the 2008 Annual Residents Survey that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well.
- 4.3.10 The 2001 Census records that nearly 73% of Barnet's population described their health as good. Residents are healthier overall than their London counterparts as measured by mental illness, death rates from major causes, sickness benefit claimants and alcohol related hospital admissions. The most common causes of acute ill health in Barnet are coronary heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, stroke, diabetes and cancer. The Standardised Mortality Rate (SMR) for Barnet is 88, the 8th lowest rate in London. Out of Barnet's neighbouring authorities only Harrow has a lower SMR.
- 4.3.11 Profiling information from Mosaic, which classifies people into 11 socio-economic groups and within these groups into 61 different types, reveals two significant groups in Barnet – 'career professionals living in sought after locations' and 'educated, young single people living in areas of transient populations'. According to Mosaic these groups make up 56% of Barnet households.¹

4.4 Deprivation in Barnet

- 4.4.1 Whilst Barnet is a generally prosperous borough there is significant deprivation in certain areas with a wide gap between the richest and the poorest. According to CACI Paycheck data for 2008 10.5% of Barnet households have incomes in excess of £75,000 a year while 11.6% have incomes less than £15,000. Household incomes vary between the north and south of the borough with the average income in the wealthiest ward (Garden Suburb) 60% higher than that of the poorest.
- 4.4.2 Barnet is the 165th most deprived authority out of 326 local authority areas in England². Map 16 shows the distribution of deprivation in Barnet. Overall deprivation is substantially higher in Burnt Oak and Colindale than the rest of the borough.
- 4.4.3 Health inequalities exist in Barnet, spatially and by gender. A man in Hampstead Garden Suburb is likely to live seven years longer than a man in Colindale. A woman in Hampstead Garden Suburb is likely to live five years longer than her counterpart in West Finchley. Although the average life expectancy of residents is almost 2 years above the English average, though it is about a year below this in the most deprived wards.

4.5 A safer Barnet

- 4.5.1 Our Residents Perception Survey in 2011 found that the vast majority of residents (96%) feel 'very of fairly safe' during the day. At night this response drops to 76%. Our Annual Resident's Survey 2008 revealed that greater fears about safety are expressed in Edgware, Burnt Oak, Colindale, West Hendon and Woodhouse. An exception is Underhill ward where 1 in 2 respondents stated they felt fairly or very unsafe in the evening.

¹ Experian, Mosaic Public Sector 2010

² Index of Deprivation, 2010

4.6 Barnet's economy

- 4.6.1 Barnet has the most town centres in London. There are 20 major, district and local town centres which vary in size and purpose as well as performance.
- 4.6.2 The town centres provide a total area of retail floorspace that is only exceeded by Westminster and Kensington and Chelsea and is the greatest of any outer London borough. Brent Cross is London's only self contained regional shopping centre. Proposals for Brent Cross – Cricklewood as set out in the Development Framework will transform it into a sustainable new town centre as part of the wider regeneration of the area complementing the role of other town centres nearby.
- 4.6.3 Barnet's resident population is well qualified. Our schools perform well with 56% of pupils attaining 5 A to C GCSEs including English and Maths. Around 35% of the adult population having a university degree or equivalent – 4% higher than the London average and 15% higher than the England average. Studies have identified a need for more vocational and intermediate courses to ensure residents and businesses can take advantage of future growth. Despite being one of the most well educated boroughs in London there is a significant number of residents with no qualifications and a persistent number of 16 to 19 year NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training).
- 4.6.4 Barnet benefits from a strong higher and further education sector which provides jobs as well as education, training and business support for residents and employers. Barnet has proportionately fewer manufacturing jobs than London or Great Britain as a whole, but rather more in distribution, hotels & restaurants, public administration, education & health.
- 4.6.5 Many of the people who work in Barnet also live here. Nearly 75% of the 112,000 jobs in the borough are held by Barnet residents, one of the highest figures in London. The majority of working residents are employed in the public sector or financial services.
- 4.6.6 Barnet is not a dormitory suburb. The borough has a large number of VAT-registered businesses, the third highest in London, and the fifth highest in Great Britain. Up to 44% of local businesses are engaged in property and business services and make an important contribution to the life of our town centres.

4.7 Homes in Barnet

- 4.7.1 At present there are 140,000 households in Barnet and this is expected to increase to 167,000 by 2026. Household composition is changing. The trend in London is that while the number of married households is declining, the number of cohabiting, lone-parent and multiple person households is increasing. The rise of the single person household and its impact on reducing average household size can obscure the complex housing picture.
- 4.7.2 Barnet is typical of many outer London suburbs in having a high proportion of owner occupied housing, a strong private rented sector, and a smaller supply of social rented accommodation. Barnet's housing stock of 133,000 units, which is predominantly an older stock of over 50 years in age, is mainly in a good condition.
- 4.7.3 About 62% of the stock comprises houses (terraced, semi-detached or detached) and 38% are flats and maisonettes. Almost 60% have 3 or more bedrooms, and only a very small percentage contain only one bedroom. Housing tenure in Barnet is similar to other outer London boroughs, with 72% in owner occupation, but unlike the rest of London more housing is rented from the private sector (16%) than the social rented sector (13%).
- 4.7.4 Barnet's private rented sector is dominated by 1 and 2 bed units. This would suggest that this is predominantly flatted development. The owner occupied stock is dominated by 3 and 4+ bed units which are typically houses.
- 4.7.5 The 2006 Housing Needs Survey estimated that 5.4% of all households in Barnet are overcrowded while 32.7% under-occupy their dwelling.

- 4.7.6 There are several affordability indexes that compare earnings of the people who work in an area with the price of local housing. The larger the ratio of prices to earnings then the more expensive the housing is for the local workforce. According to these indexes Barnet experiences high financial barriers to owner occupation compared with the rest of the country. In 2007 Barnet had the 28th highest affordability ratio of England's 355 districts.
- 4.7.7 Regenerating our largest and most deprived housing estates forms a central part of Barnet's future. Over 3,000 units will be replaced at Dollis Valley, Grahame Park, Stonegrove - Spur Road and West Hendon.

4.8 Barnet's environment

- 4.8.1 Barnet is rich in green spaces and biodiversity containing 68 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, including seven of which are local nature reserves. The Brent Reservoir, (also known as the Welsh Harp) which lies partly in the borough, is a Site of Special Scientific Interest. There are three landscape character types in Barnet - the Barnet Plateau, Finchley Ridge and Hampstead Ridge each with their own natural signatures.
- 4.8.2 On average residents produce around 431 kg of waste each per year. The amount of household waste recycled has increased from 9% to 31% from 2000 to 2008. This has helped to decrease the overall level of municipal waste going to landfill from 72% in 2000 to 53% in 2008.
- 4.8.3 Domestic CO₂ emissions in Barnet are near the national average. Reflecting its older, more than 50 year old housing stock, Barnet has the fourth highest per capita domestic emissions in London.

4.9 Barnet's transport

- 4.9.1 Barnet is characterised by high car ownership (73% of households have access to a car³) but also has high public transport usage, 62% of Barnet residents use public transport at least once a week.⁴ Many of Barnet's residents travel to work in central London and use the radial underground services of the Northern and Piccadilly Lines. However orbital routes are less well served by public transport and therefore people travelling within the borough or to adjoining areas often have little choice but to rely on private transport.
- 4.9.2 According to the 2001 Census about 146,000 residents are employed either full or part time. Of these 59,600 work in the borough (of whom 39% drive to work) with 86,300 working outside the borough (of whom 42% drive). A further 47,300 people commute into the borough (66% of whom drive).

4.10 Barnet's setting

- 4.10.1 Barnet does not sit in isolation. In the production of this Core Strategy we have taken account of the spatial variations to change across the borough and our relationships with neighbouring authorities in London and Hertfordshire as well as those areas with whom we share transport links.
- 4.10.2 The western part of the borough forms part of the North-West London Luton Corridor. The Corridor threads through Barnet and its neighbouring boroughs of Brent, Camden and Harrow and extends along the route of M1 / Thameslink up to Luton. The Corridor in Barnet is rapidly changing with pockets of deprivation undergoing renewal and regeneration. Growth within the Corridor is focused on a series of major urban regeneration projects including Kings Cross and Wembley as well as Brent Cross – Cricklewood. Thousands of new homes are also being provided at Colindale, Harrow town centre and West Hampstead.

³ LTDS, 2006-09

⁴ Barnet Annual Residents Survey, 2007

- 4.10.3 The eastern part of Barnet has a generally stable population. It adjoins Enfield and housing growth is planned around the North Circular Road and in New Southgate through renewal, refurbishment and redevelopment.
- 4.10.4 The northern part of Barnet is predominantly Green Belt which extends into Hertfordshire has a generally stable population. The Watling Chase Community Forest covers the northern part of Barnet.
- 4.10.5 The southern part of Barnet especially in areas such as East Finchley is becoming more 'metropolitan'.

4.11 Barnet and the arts, culture and creative industry

- 4.11.1 Barnet is home to a rich diversity of groups involved in arts, music, theatre, literature, visual arts and film. Demands for performance and exhibition space are therefore high. Support and publicity for over 100 groups engaged in the arts is provided by an independent charity – the Barnet Borough Arts Council.
- 4.11.2 Barnet is home to the Phoenix in East Finchley. Dating back to 1910 it is one of the oldest cinemas in Britain as well as one of the leading independents in London. Barnet is also home to one of the most modern arts venues in London. The Artsdepot in North Finchley opened in 2004 and remains the only professional arts venue in Barnet providing a variety of spaces for drama, dance and visual arts.
- 4.11.3 GLA Economics have conducted a comprehensive survey of creative industries in London. In 2010 they published data⁵ on creative employment and businesses by local authority area in London. Barnet has one of the highest concentrations of creative industry firms in Outer London. The survey identified 2,135 creative industry firms in Barnet in 2008. Over two thirds of these firms are engaged in creative industries such as leisure software and music and performance.
- 4.11.4 According to work by Four Greens in 2005 creative industries in Barnet are more likely to be business oriented and focus on advertising and publishing. Barnet's creative businesses are more likely to be based in the south and east of the borough.

| Key References | |
|--|--|
| ➤ Annual Residents Survey, 2008 | ➤ GLA Population Projections, 2009 Round |
| ➤ Barnet Housing Needs Survey, 2006 | ➤ London Travel Demand Survey (LTDS), Transport for London |
| ➤ Barnet Maps, Facts & Figures, Insight Team, LB Barnet | ➤ North London Strategic Housing Market Assessment |
| ➤ Four Greens Report –Arts and Creative Industries in North London, 2005 | ➤ ONS Mid Year Estimates and Births and Deaths |
| ➤ GLA Economics – London's Creative Workforce – 2009 Update (Working Paper 40) | ➤ Residents Perception Survey, 2011 |
| | ➤ State of the Borough Report |

⁵ GLA Economics – London's Creative Workforce – 2009 Update – Working Paper 40

5 The challenges we face

- 5.1.1 Barnet is a vibrant, diverse and successful London suburb. Barnet residents live healthier and longer lives than average and Barnet is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. People choose to live here because of our:
- clean and green environment with access to Green Belt and quality open spaces
 - excellent schools
 - low levels of crime
 - good radial transport links
 - high quality housing and public spaces
- 5.1.2 In a period of significant change for the borough, we are committed to maintaining and building on these assets to ensure that Barnet remains a desirable place to live.
- 5.1.3 Public services are set to feel the long term impacts of the global recession with cuts in funding from Government expected to continue through the first half of this Core Strategy's life-time. In order to provide services that increase satisfaction and provide better outcomes for residents at less cost the council and its partners has developed the One Barnet Programme. This new relationship is about simplifying public service systems and processes, making them more open to citizen influence so that we are certain that we are utilising resources in the best possible way. It is also about encouraging self-help and behaviour change and freeing up capacity so that we can focus on those residents with the most complex and multiple needs; working together to solve the most difficult issues Barnet is facing.
- 5.1.4 We also recognise that there are some people in Barnet who experience a disproportionately high level of deprivation, and do not have the opportunity to share in the borough's success. Overall deprivation is substantially higher in Burnt Oak and Colindale than the rest of the borough. To establish our status as a truly successful London suburb we must ensure that all our residents benefit from our success. Most of the public spending on disadvantaged members of the community is focussed on addressing the problems of disadvantage rather than addressing what causes them in the first place. We are reducing multiple disadvantage by working together with Barnet citizens and our key partners to analyse the underlying causes so that we can create effective responses to increase general levels of prosperity for all.
- 5.1.5 The popularity of Barnet as a place means we continue to grow. Over the next two decades we will build 28,000 new homes and regenerate our areas of concentrated deprivation. The growth in the borough will change our existing communities, attracting a much younger and ethnically diverse population. Over the next 10 years there will be a marked increase in the number of children aged between 5-14 years old and number of people over 65. The age groups that will grow are those that are more likely to use public services and resources more frequently. This will place increased pressure on school places and services for the frail elderly.
- 5.1.6 In 20 years our population is likely to exceed 384,000. With this growth new business, retail and leisure facilities and significant employment opportunities will come.
- 5.1.7 Managing the growth in the borough will be a major challenge. Alongside this growth we must maintain and build on those qualities that make Barnet such a desirable place to live and work, whilst also helping to create new, socially integrated communities. Our Three Strands Approach to planning, "Protect, Enhance and Consolidated Growth" recognises that sustainable development in Barnet needs different approaches.
- 5.1.8 Through the One Barnet Programme we are developing a common insight function in order to develop a finer understanding of what life is like for residents and businesses in Barnet. It will identify the future challenges for people, communities and the place as a whole. The infrastructure to support growth including schools, further and higher education

establishments, healthcare, community facilities, parks, utilities and improvements to transport connectivity needs to be developed on a collective understanding of how the needs of our residents are changing.

- 5.1.9 The global recession and its aftermath is placing pressure on many of Barnet’s residents, communities and businesses. This requires an agile and flexible response built on a solid understanding of their needs and economic trends. We need to support residents and businesses to enable them to deal with the changes they will face.
- 5.1.10 In order to protect the suburban distinctiveness of the borough we have to make more efficient use of previously developed land. We are faced with an imbalanced housing stock with one household in three considered to under-occupy, while the demands for increased housing choice, affordable housing, and family homes to meet aspirations of home ownership are increasing. Providing a greater range of attractive and locally accessible housing choices for older people could help free up suburban family homes that attract young families.
- 5.1.11 The varying performance of our 20 town centres creates a challenge for the Core Strategy. Whilst recognising there is no one size fits all solution a clearer steer is required on their role and function in a changing borough.
- 5.1.12 We need to understand what minimising the impact on natural resources means in Barnet as there is a clear tension between the benefits of an economically vibrant and developing community and the environmental impact of the activities of that community. We must engage with residents and businesses who are environmentally concerned and work together as role models to increase awareness, facilitate behaviour change and demonstrate the longer term economic benefits of good environmental practice.
- 5.1.13 On agendas such as healthy lifestyles and efficient use of natural resources, solutions must lie in finding new ways of doing things through working with citizens and creating the conditions in which together we can achieve the outcomes that residents tell us they want.
- 5.1.14 Each of these challenges has an impact or effect on the spatial development of the borough and on one or more of the Three Strands: Protect, Enhance, Grow. This has contributed to the development of the vision and objectives of this Core Strategy.
- 5.1.15 Further insights on Barnet today and the challenges facing us in the future can be found in the State of the Borough Report available online.

Key References

- State of the Borough Report
- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy, 2010 - 2020
- Three Strands Approach
- One Barnet Framework, LB Barnet Cabinet November 29 2010

6 Vision and objectives

6.1.1 In 2010, the Local Strategic Partnership (the One Barnet Partnership Board) agreed Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy, which sets out a shared vision and strategy for the borough. We are using the vision from the Sustainable Community Strategy as the overarching vision for Barnet's Local Plan Core Strategy and other related policy documents to ensure Barnet is a successful London suburb as the borough changes, develops and grows. Our vision is :

'It is 2026. Barnet is known as a successful London suburb. It has successfully ridden difficult times to emerge as resilient as ever. The public service is smaller than before but the organisations within it, through effective partnerships, work together to deliver good services and there is a healthy relationship between them, and residents who do things for themselves and their families.

Established and new residents value living here for the Borough's excellent schools, strong retail offer, clean streets, low levels of crime and fear of crime, easy access to green open spaces and access to good quality healthcare.

Barnet is an economically and socially successful place. With high levels of educational qualifications and access to good transport networks, residents continue to have access locally, in other parts of London and beyond to jobs in a wide variety of different industries.

Barnet's success is founded on its residents, in particular through a strong civic society, including its diverse faith communities, founded on an ethos of self-help for those that can, and support through a wide range of volunteering activities for others. Different communities get on well together with each other.

6.1.2 Four themes (and sub ambitions) were identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy to achieve this vision:

- a successful London suburb
- strong safe communities for everyone
- investing in children, young people and their families
- healthy and independent living

The linkage between these themes, the underlying ambitions and the Core Strategy policy framework are set out in Table 2.

6.2 Barnet's core objectives

6.2.1 We have developed a series of core objectives in order to deliver the Local Plan vision. These are:

- **To manage housing growth to meet housing aspirations**
 - to promote the development of the major regeneration and development areas, priority estates and town centres in order to provide in the range of 20,000 new homes (contributing to a borough total of 28,000 new homes) by 2026 to meet local and regional housing needs;
 - to regenerate the priority housing estates at Dollis Valley, Grahame Park, Granville Road, Stonegrove - Spur Road and West Hendon to replace 3,000 existing homes with a greater range of accommodation that provides access to affordable and decent new homes;
 - to provide a range of housing, including family and extra care accommodation, that enables choice between types and tenures, as well as over lifetimes and within neighbourhoods.

- **To meet social infrastructure needs**
 - to ensure inclusive and accessible provision for community needs arising from housing growth including education, health, policing, social care and integrated community facilities;
 - to provide new and improved primary and secondary schools through capital investment programmes
 - to support the improvement and expansion of further and higher education to meet needs of a growing population and economy; and
 - to provide community facilities to meet the changing needs of Barnet's diverse communities.
- **To promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity**
 - to support the continued vitality and viability of 20 town centres, focusing commercial investment in our priority centres of Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End, and North Finchley;
 - to ensure that the regeneration of Brent Cross - Cricklewood creates a new metropolitan town centre and commercial district that serves the sub-region and beyond;
 - to ensure that in the borough's main commercial areas including designated employment locations and town centres there are sufficient opportunities available to help business grow and prosper; and
 - to ensure that residents are equipped with the skills to access the 21,000⁶ jobs that the regeneration of the major growth areas will deliver by 2025/26.
- **To provide safe, effective and efficient travel**
 - to ensure safe and effective use of the road network that enables residents and visitors to choose convenient and reliable transport that is economically and environmentally efficient, and takes a comprehensive approach to tackling the school run;
 - to provide more environmentally friendly transport systems by delivering high quality transport systems in regeneration areas and in town centres through town centre frameworks improving accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services..
- **To promote strong and cohesive communities**
 - to enable communities to become confident and cohesive by providing facilities through which residents can play a part, diversity is valued and local pride is promoted;
 - to create the conditions for a safer and more secure Barnet by designing out crime and reducing anti-social behaviour, particularly in known 'hotspots'.
- **To promote healthy living and well-being**
 - to secure a healthier Barnet by addressing the factors underpinning poor health and well-being and educating citizens as to their own responsibilities for health.
 - to provide opportunities for vulnerable people to live more independent lives by planning for appropriate facilities and support services that can meet their future needs.
- **To protect and enhance the suburbs**
 - to respect and enrich Barnet's distinctive historic environment by protecting and enhancing heritage assets such as the high quality suburban character of townscapes and conservation areas.
 - to promote heritage led regeneration to make better use of our heritage assets and engender civic pride in them

⁶ Based on 2008 London Plan and adopted AAPs

- **To ensure efficient use of land and natural resources**
 - to promote mixed use development of previously developed land in the major growth areas and larger town centres.
 - to reduce energy demand through the highest possible standards for design and construction and identify opportunities for decentralised heating networks
 - to minimise waste and maximise re-use and recycling and promote an appropriate framework for integrated waste management.
- **To enhance and protect our green and natural open spaces**
 - to improve access to, and enhance the quality of the Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and other open spaces as places for recreation and biodiversity.
 - to create new and enhanced public open spaces to support of Barnet's growing population, including at least 18 ha in Brent Cross – Cricklewood, Colindale and Mill Hill East.

6.2.2 The linkage between these objectives, the themes and ambitions of the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Core Strategy policies that help deliver each objective are set out below

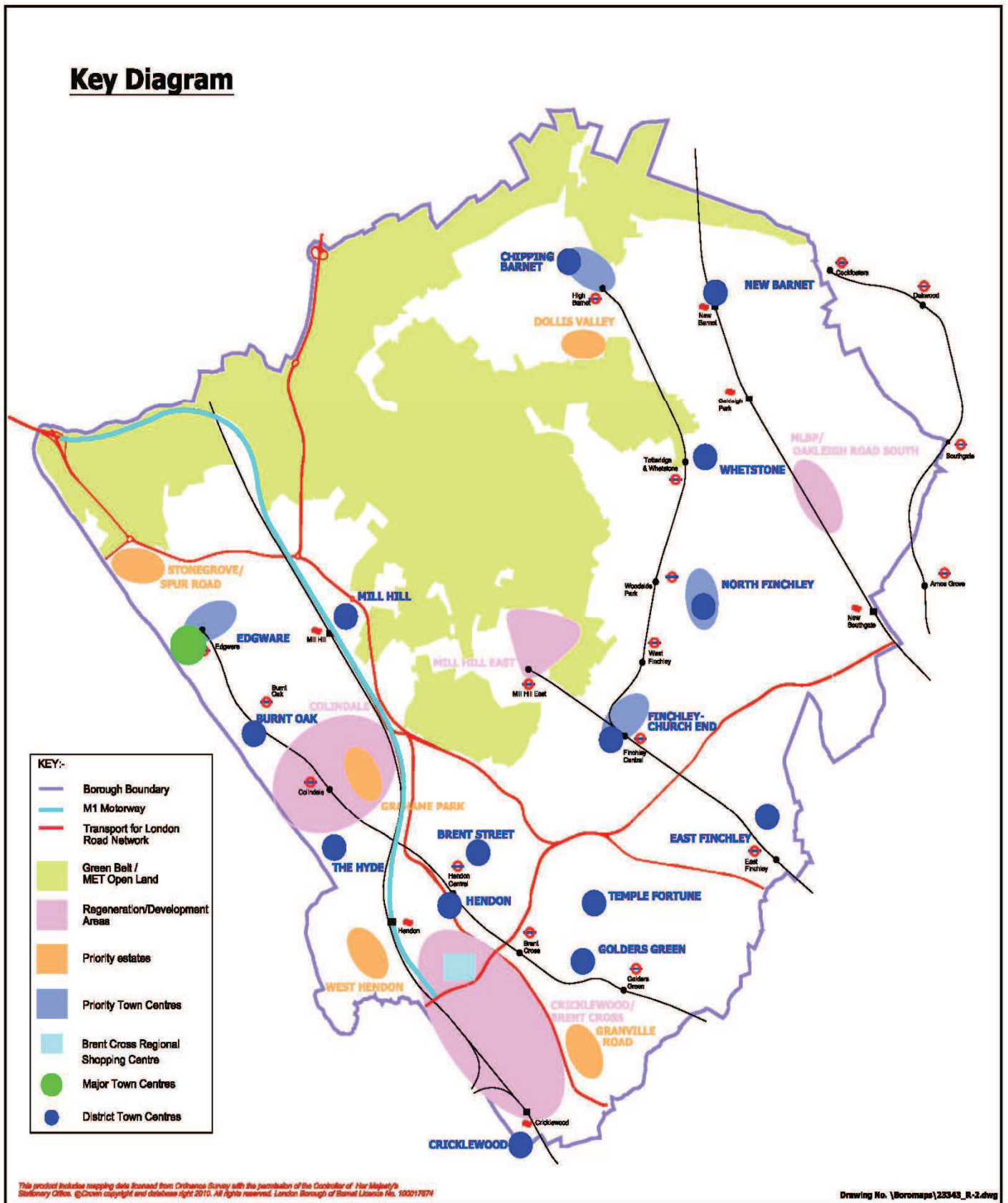
Table 2 – Linkage between the Core Strategy and Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy

| Sustainable Community Strategy for Barnet 2010-2020; Themes & Ambitions | Core Strategy Objectives | Core Strategy Policies |
|--|---|--|
| Theme - A Successful London Suburb | | |
| Ambition: Delivering sustainable housing growth | To manage housing growth to meet housing aspirations To protect and enhance the suburbs | Distribution of Housing Growth Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character and Creating High Quality Places Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet |
| Ambition: Keep Barnet moving | To ensure efficient use of land and natural resources To provide safe effective and efficient travel | Providing safe effective and efficient travel Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources |
| Ambition: People have the right skills to access employment opportunities | To promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity To meet social infrastructure needs | Promoting a strong and prosperous Barnet |
| Ambition: Environmentally responsible | To ensure efficient use of land and natural resources To enhance and protect our green and natural open spaces To provide safe effective and efficient travel | Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources Providing safe effective and efficient travel |
| Ambition: Supporting enterprise (including town centres) | To promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity | Promoting a strong and prosperous Barnet Promoting Barnet's Town Centres |
| Ambition: A clean and green suburb | To ensure efficient use of land and natural resources To enhance and protect our green and natural open spaces To promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity To provide safe effective and efficient travel | Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources Promoting Barnet's Town Centres Providing safe effective and efficient travel |

| Theme – strong, safe communities for everyone | | |
|---|--|---|
| Ambition: Reduce crime and residents feel safe | To promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity To promote strong and cohesive communities | Promoting Barnet's Town Centres Making Barnet a Safer Place |
| Ambition: Strong and cohesive communities | To meet social infrastructure needs To promote strong and cohesive communities To protect and enhance the suburbs | Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses Making Barnet a Safer Place Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character to Create High Quality Places |
| Theme - Investing in Children, Young People and their Families | | |
| Ambition: Safety of children and young people | To meet social infrastructure needs | Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses Making Barnet a Safer Place |
| Ambition: Narrow gap through targeting support at young people at risk of not fulfilling their potential | To meet social infrastructure needs To manage housing growth to meet housing aspirations To promote strong and cohesive communities To promote Barnet as a place of economic growth and prosperity | Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet Promoting a strong and prosperous Barnet |
| Ambition: Prevent ill health and unhealthy lifestyles | To meet social infrastructure needs To promote healthy living and well-being To enhance and protect our green and natural open spaces To provide safe effective and efficient travel | Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses Improving health and well being in Barnet Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces Providing safe effective and efficient travel |
| Theme - Healthier Barnet (including older people) | | |
| Ambition: Better health for all our communities | To meet social infrastructure needs To promote healthy living and well-being To manage housing growth to meet housing aspirations To provide safe effective and efficient travel To enhance and protect our green and natural open spaces To ensure efficient use of land and natural resources | Improving health and well being in Barnet Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet Providing safe effective and efficient travel Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources |
| Ambition: Better access to local health services | To meet social infrastructure needs To promote healthy living and well-being | Improving health and well being in Barnet Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses |
| Ambition: Promote choice and maximise independence of those needing greatest support. | To manage housing growth to meet housing aspirations To meet social infrastructure needs To promote healthy living and well-being | Improving health and well being in Barnet Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses |

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Key References</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy, 2010-2020 ➤ Brent Cross, Cricklewood, and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010 ➤ Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009 |
|--|---|

Map 2 – The key diagram



7 Barnet's place shaping strategy

7.1 Protection, enhancement and consolidated growth - The Three Strands approach

- 7.1.1 Barnet is a vibrant, diverse and successful London suburb. Barnet contributes to London's success as a global city because it is home to a large number of highly qualified people who choose to live here because of the high quality of life. This quality is demonstrated through excellent schools attainment, attractive suburbs and open spaces, good levels of health and well-being, low crime rates and diverse but cohesive communities. The popularity of Barnet as a place to live means that the borough continues to grow.
- 7.1.2 The London Councils Successful Suburbs report (published March 2009) highlights the strengths of the suburbs, including the relatively high quality of the suburban environment, high skills level and generally high quality of life.
- 7.1.3 There is a tension between the demands of growth and maintaining the conditions for a good and improving quality of life and a concern about the loss of what makes living in Barnet a distinctive experience. Quality of life covers a broad range of cross-cutting policy areas on design, heritage, local character and views, access and inclusive design, safety, green infrastructure, biodiversity, air quality, soundscapes⁷ and all the policy areas that contribute to making Barnet a special place.
- 7.1.4 Housing development needs to be supported by infrastructure. Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan sets out the anticipated timing of infrastructure provision (although not phasing). Timing and phasing will depend on a variety of factors, including when the development envisaged by this Core Strategy takes place, the availability of funding such as from Growth Area Fund and the timing of major investment. In many cases the confirmation of funding for infrastructure is limited to the short term. Nevertheless, it is important to identify medium to long term infrastructure priorities even where funding has not yet been confirmed as the Core Strategy will guide the future decision making of the council and its partners in relation to infrastructure provision.
- 7.1.5 In order for Barnet to remain as a place where people choose to live the Three Strands Approach has been developed. The Three Strands are:
- Protection - absolute protection for the Green Belt and open spaces
 - Enhancement - enhancing and conserving the best of Barnet suburbia and Barnet's 20 town centres
 - Consolidated growth in areas in need of renewal and investment

7.2 Consolidated growth

- 7.2.1 Our overall strategy is to manage growth in Barnet so that it meets our needs for homes, jobs and services in a way that conserves and enhances the character of the borough. Where there is already planned or approved pipeline growth this is consolidated in areas in need of renewal and investment and where regeneration delivers significant and lasting economic and wider benefits to the residents and communities of Barnet, particularly in the west of the borough.
- 7.2.2 Policy CS 1 sets out the spatial development strategy for Barnet. This sets out our overarching Three Strands Approach to protect, enhance and consolidate planned and pipeline growth. Three Strands ensures that in consolidating planned and pipeline growth we can provide stronger protection for the suburbs, gardens and Green Belt and enhance our quality residential neighbourhoods and town centres. Three Strands helps to keep what is best about the borough, what makes Barnet a distinctive place.

⁷ A soundscape is the combination of sounds that arises from natural sounds such as the wind and sounds caused by human activity such as traffic.

- 7.2.3 Consolidated growth will predominantly be delivered in two regeneration areas - Brent Cross – Cricklewood and Colindale; and the development area of Mill Hill East. These areas have significant capacity to accommodate new housing, commercial and other development linked to public transport improvements. These three areas will be the primary focus of housing and employment growth and therefore are identified in the London Plan as having significant potential for accommodating new homes and jobs.
- 7.2.4 The regeneration of Brent Cross - Cricklewood is expected to deliver over 20,000⁸ jobs by 2026/27 with Colindale and Mill Hill East adding 1,500 new jobs⁹. In terms of housing delivery these regeneration and development areas are expected to deliver over 16,000 new homes within the next 15 years.
- 7.2.5 It is vital that the transport facilities and services, utilities and social infrastructure needed to make development work and support local communities is provided, particularly in the parts of Barnet that will experience most growth in future years. Through Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan we will have regard to the investment and operational plans of infrastructure providers and work with our partners and other relevant organisations to secure 'critical', 'necessary' or 'preferred' infrastructure in order to deliver the objectives of the Core Strategy. Section 20 sets out how the Core Strategy will be delivered and provides more detail on the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

Mill Hill East Development Area

The Mill Hill East AAP was adopted in January 2009.

The relationship of Mill Hill East to the London Plan is set out at para 1.3.2

The Mill Hill East AAP area covers 48 hectares of land, of which 31 hectares is proposed for the development of around 2,000 additional residential units. The AAP vision is that Mill Hill East represents a major regeneration and development opportunity in the heart of Barnet. Within 15 years the Mill Hill East area will have been transformed through one of the highest quality sustainable developments in North London. Within a green suburban context it will provide new homes and business opportunities with high quality community services, transport and access to open space and leisure facilities.

The AAP seeks to ensure that development takes place in a balanced and coordinated manner by setting out a comprehensive framework to guide the delivery of housing, employment, leisure and associated community facilities, infrastructure, transport initiatives, environmental protection and enhancement.

Mill Hill East will be a major focus for the creation of new jobs and homes and the development of a sustainable community, building upon the area's strategic location. Development will comprise:

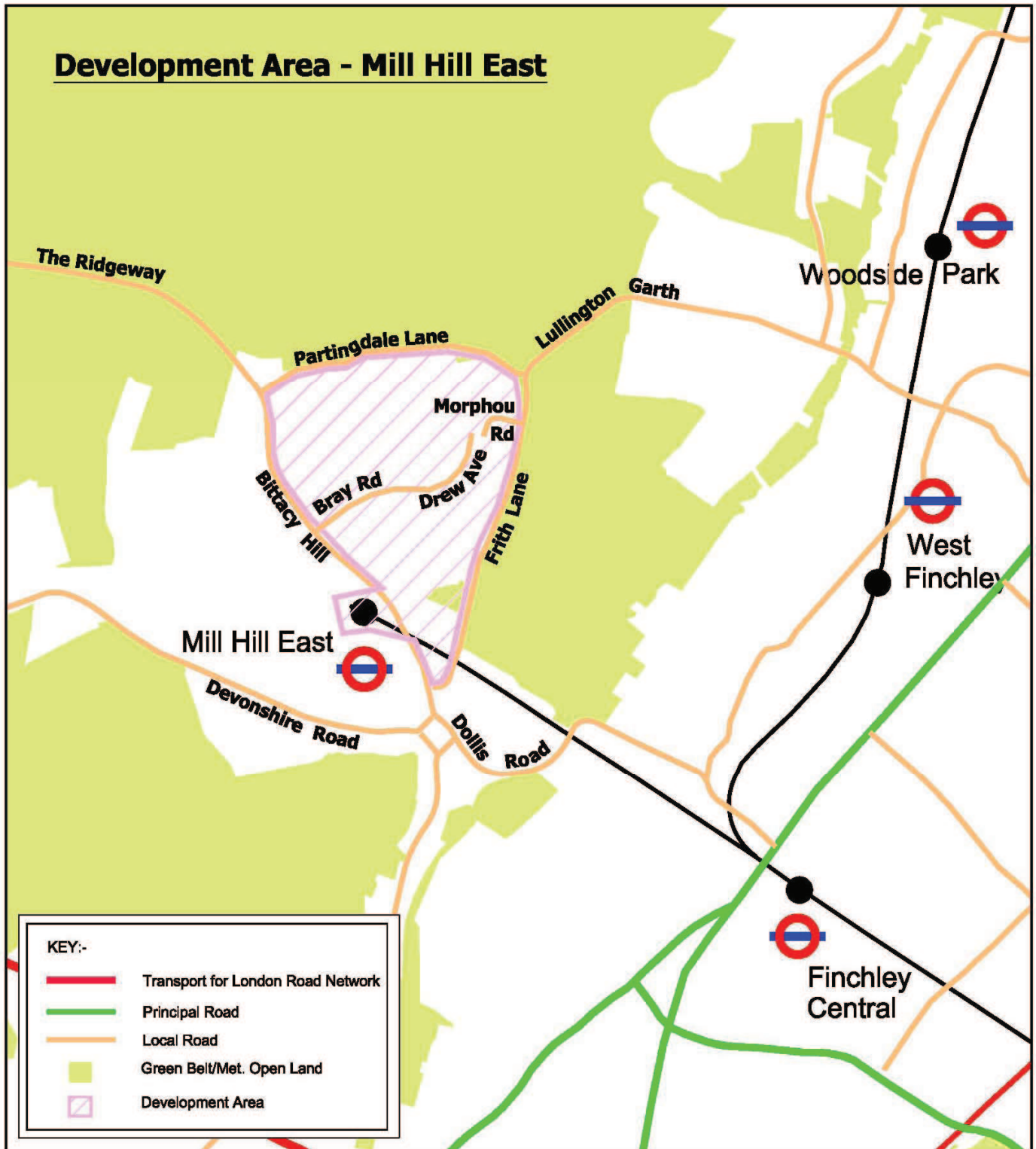
- a total of around 2,660 residential units including 2,000 new homes by 2024;
- in line with the 2008 London Plan target of 50% of housing provision being affordable the maximum amount of affordable housing will be sought having regard to this target and to a viability assessment;
- a minimum of 500 jobs by 2024 (replacement of existing jobs and creation of new jobs) with a focus on the provision of small-medium sized workspace and support for local businesses and designation of an additional 1 hectare of adjacent land for employment use;
- around 5.5 ha of public open space including children's play facilities, formal sports provision and natural areas by 2024.
- a new mixed use high street comprising around 1,000 m² of retail floorspace in a small retail parade by 2024;
- a new 2 form entry primary school on a 1.7 ha site between 2016 and 2020;

⁸ Based on 2008 London Plan and Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Development Framework SPG 2005

⁹ Figure reflects the jobs totals identified in adopted AAPs. London Plan has identified jobs capacity of 3,800 for Colindale and Mill Hill East

- between 2011 and 2015 a local healthcare facility (approximately 500 m2 floorspace) to accommodate 2 to 3 GPs serving the new community in line with guidance from NHS Barnet ;
- transport improvements to mitigate the phased impact of the development including new roads, improvements to existing junctions, public transport enhancements including better facilities at Mill Hill East station, facilities for pedestrians and cyclists and comprehensive travel planning.

Map 3 – Mill Hill East development area



Colindale Regeneration Area

The Colindale AAP was adopted in March 2010.

The relationship of Colindale to the London Plan is set out at para 1.3.1

The Colindale AAP area covers 200 hectares. The AAP's vision is that Colindale will, by 2021, be a vibrant successful and diverse neighbourhood where people will want to live, work and visit. It will accommodate high quality, sustainable developments within four 'Corridors of Change' and a new neighbourhood centre. Colindale will become a successful suburb in North London, providing existing and new communities with high quality local services, improved transport and access to enhanced green space and leisure facilities.

Colindale represents an opportunity to deliver sustainable housing growth, a new compact neighbourhood centre in an area well served by improved public transport services and high quality public open space. Colindale will make the single largest housing and affordable housing contribution to the Borough over the next 10-15 years and one of the biggest in North London with approximately 10,000¹⁰ new homes, of which nearly 5,300 already have planning permission and hundreds are under construction or completed.

Four Corridors of Change have been identified in the Colindale Area Action Plan

- **Colindale Avenue**
- **Aerodrome Road**
- **Edgware Road**
- **Grahame Park Way**

Colindale Avenue will provide the vibrant heart and gateway of Colindale as a sustainable mixed-use neighbourhood centre anchored by a new public transport interchange with pedestrian piazzas. This Corridor will provide a new convenience food store of up to 2,500 m² in the neighbourhood centre. It will also include a new location for Barnet College, support for relocation of Middlesex University's student accommodation and support for provision of a new primary healthcare facility. The quality of, and access to, Montrose Park will be improved as will the environment of the Silk Stream.

**In the Colindale Avenue Corridor of Change between 2007 and 2021 approximately:
2,370 new homes are expected to be developed and
200 new jobs generated**

Aerodrome Road will bring forward the largest and most significant phase of growth in transforming Colindale. This Corridor will become a focus for living, learning and working forging new connections with the surrounding area to create a new eastern movement gateway into Colindale and connect to a new public transport interchange and the new quarter of Beaufort Park. A new 5 ha Aerodrome Park will be provided as will new commercial facilities along Aerodrome Road to support consolidation and redevelopment of the Metropolitan Police Peel Centre to provide modern police training facilities. On Peel Centre East this Corridor will provide a site for a new primary school and a new 1,000 bed student village for Middlesex University

**In the Aerodrome Road Corridor of Change between 2007 and 2021 approximately:
4,180 new homes are expected to be developed and
760 new jobs generated**

Edgware Road which borders London Borough of Brent, will become a thriving mixed-use urban corridor providing focus for employment, housing and bulky retail (selling goods such as furniture,

¹⁰ The Colindale AAP identifies a total of 9,806 new homes to be delivered by 2021.

DIY or washing machines). This Corridor will provide an improved gateway to Colindale incorporating tall buildings where appropriate and key junction improvements to increase travel movement and new or improved public transport provision. A co-ordinated approach to the public realm with TfL and London Borough of Brent will help establish a formal, tree lined urban boulevard to create a lively, busy and thriving place.

In the Edgware Road Corridor of Change between 2007 and 2021 approximately:

925 new homes are expected to be developed

There will be no net loss of jobs

Grahame Park Way will, through the redevelopment of Grahame Park Estate and the Barnet College site, create a vibrant, mixed use neighbourhood. This Corridor will also provide for the replacement of the neighbourhood centre at Grahame Park. Other planned development includes a new primary healthcare facility, a new 2 form entry primary school on the former Barnet College site and the use and expansion of the RAF Museum as a key cultural, tourist and community facility.

In the Grahame Park Way Corridor of Change between 2007 and 2021 approximately:

2,335 new homes are expected to be developed and

70 new jobs generated.

Proposals for the wider Colindale area include:

Transport improvements to link development with the wider area and increase connectivity and permeability within Colindale.

Highway improvements include:

Junction improvements on the A5 and A41 by 2016

New street (Peel Access Link) connecting Aerodrome Road / Colindeep Lane by 2021

In line with the 2008 London Plan target of 50% of housing provision being affordable the maximum amount of affordable housing will be sought having regard to this target and to a viability assessment.

A new public piazza at Colindale Avenue by 2016

Improvements to Montrose Park by 2016 and delivery of the new Aerodrome Park by 2021

5,000m² gross of retail in the new neighbourhood centres by 2016

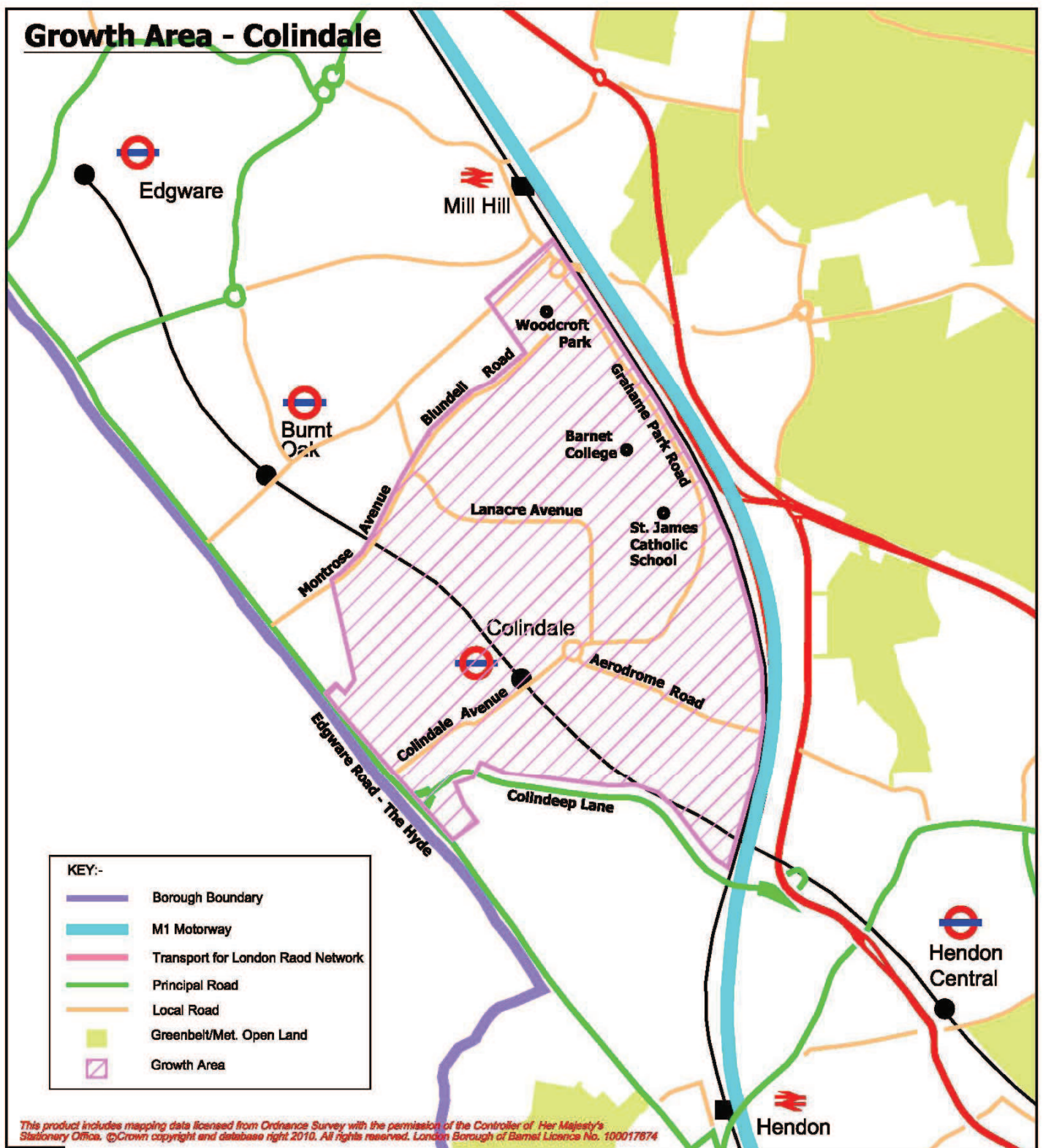
Up to 1,000 new jobs by 2021

Two new, 2 form entry primary schools at former Barnet College site by 2016 and Peel Centre East by 2021.

A Colindale-wide CHP and district heating system supported by energy centres at Colindale Hospital and Peel Centre West by 2016

A new 4,000m² community centre in Zenith House by 2016

Map 4 – Colindale regeneration area



Brent Cross – Cricklewood Regeneration Area

Together with the Mayor of London we have identified Brent Cross – Cricklewood as a major Opportunity Area. Brent Cross-Cricklewood was included as an important strategic project in both the London Plan and the UDP. In December 2005 the Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework was adopted by the council and the Mayor as Supplementary Planning Guidance. This Development Framework was produced in collaboration with the Mayor and the Greater London Authority, landowners and developers in order to guide and inform the design and delivery of the development with the aim of achieving high quality comprehensive redevelopment of the area around a new sustainable mixed use town centre spanning the North Circular Road. The UDP policies relating to Brent Cross-Cricklewood were saved by a Direction of the Secretary of State dated May 13 2009.

The London Plan and the UDP saved policies combined with the Development Framework establishes a series of strategic principles for the comprehensive redevelopment of the area to create a new town centre, the overall vision for which is set out in UDP Policy GCrick in the following terms:

‘The Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area, as defined on the Proposals Map, will be a major focus for the creation of new jobs and homes, building upon the area’s strategic location and its key rail facilities. All new development will be built to the highest standards of design as well as to the highest environmental standards. A new town centre, developed over the Plan period, will be fully integrated into the regeneration scheme.’

The Development Framework expands upon this vision and provides detailed guidance within the scope of the saved UDP policies as to what will be acceptable to support regeneration in terms of land uses, design principles and housing densities.

The regeneration area of Brent Cross – Cricklewood is identified on Map 5

A hybrid planning application to establish a masterplan and framework for the comprehensive regeneration of the Brent Cross Cricklewood Area in accordance with relevant development plan policies was submitted by a partnership of key landowners and developers (BXC Development Partners) in March 2008. This followed and resulted in extensive pre and post application consultation with the council, the GLA, Transport for London, the Highways Agency, the Environment Agency and other agencies and stakeholders including the local community. In November 2009 the council resolved to approve the hybrid application subject to completion of a Section 106 Agreement. On 28th October 2010 the Section 106 Agreement was completed and the hybrid planning permission for the BXC development was granted.

These proposals represent the largest and most important development in Barnet and one of London’s most important strategic proposals. The development includes the creation of a sustainable new mixed use town centre for Barnet and North London including substantial residential, commercial and retail uses. The proposals include approximately 7,550 housing units, of which, subject to a viability assessment, 2,250 are targeted to be affordable.

The Brent Cross Shopping Centre will be transformed into an outward-facing town centre with approximately double the current amount of floorspace, which will be focused on a new High Street which traverses the North Circular Road. The application proposals comprise a net addition of 55,000m² gross comparison retail floorspace as part of town centre north. The area south of the North Circular Road will comprise a mix of town centre and residential uses and will include new schools and community uses as well as a new food superstore (to replace the existing foodstore) and smaller retail units. The ‘bridging of the North Circular Road’ with a new metropolitan scale sustainable town centre will create the heart and focus of activities at the ‘hub’ of Brent Cross Cricklewood.

In the later phases of the development a new office quarter is proposed to the north west of the area (south east of the existing Staples Corner) which will be served by a new railway station in the later phases of the development.

A new ‘state of the art’ bus station is proposed at the Brent Cross Shopping Centre, linked to the realignment and enhancements of the River Brent corridor.

The development will deliver new:

- open spaces and squares and improvements to Clitterhouse Playing Fields
- Claremont Primary school will be rebuilt and expanded as an environmentally 'exemplar' education and learning building in the first phase and both Whitefield and Mapledown School will be reprovided in new premises in later phases
- a new Primary Care Centre for NHS Barnet
- a small library and a replacement Leisure Centre are proposed in Phase 2
- a new Waste Handling Facility and Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Plant are also proposed as part of Phase 1 and (subject to feasibility testing) will provide a significant proportion of renewable on site energy generation by way of energy from waste processes and a district heating network is proposed
- a new Rail Freight Facility is proposed in a later phase
- extensive improvements to the road network will be undertaken to accommodate significant new movement in this development
- contributions toward accessibility improvements to Brent Cross Underground and Cricklewood stations are proposed
- significant improvements to bus services in North West London including a contribution to a new Rapid Transit Service between Cricklewood Station, Brent Cross Station and the new town centre shopping areas, with potential extension to other nearby tube stations such as Hendon Central
- improvements will be made to pedestrian and cycle links

Brent Cross - Cricklewood is expected to be delivered over a twenty year timescale according to a detailed delivery programme which will be approved by the council. Implementation of each phase of the development will depend on economic viability. As the phases proceed further infrastructure and other improvements to the area will be delivered. The precise timing of commencement and delivery of the development will depend upon the developers securing the various approvals required pre-commencement of Phase 1, including a compulsory purchase order so as to underpin site acquisition. The planning conditions require that Phase 1 should commence no later than seven years from the grant of permission. We will monitor progress in these procedures by reference to the monitoring indicators in Appendix B as part of the Annual Monitoring Report in the early pre-commencement years of the project, as well as the relevant outputs from the development once construction has commenced.

Phase 1 will include around 50% of the proposed new retail development focused on Brent Cross Shopping Centre which will provide the initial catalyst to deliver (without public funding) infrastructure that will benefit the wider regeneration of the whole area. A new hotel and cinema will be built on the north side of the North Circular Road. The Whitefield Estate will be demolished and the affordable housing units will be replaced elsewhere within the site. Around 1,300 housing units will be started in Phase 1. The Waste Handling Facility and CHP / CCHP will form part of Phase 1 and these will generally serve the needs of the whole development insofar as it is feasible. Phase 1 will also include a new Tempelhof Bridge and improved access between A406 and Brent Cross Shopping Centre including major improvement of A41 /A406.

Phase 2 will comprise the remainder of the new town centre shopping area north of the North Circular Road and elements adjacent to the Phase 1 areas to the south. This will include the replacements for the Whitefield Secondary School and Mapledown Special Needs School, completion of the improvements to Clitterhouse Playing Fields, a replacement for Hendon Leisure Centre and a new Health Centre, Brent Cross Bus Station, step-free access at Brent Cross Underground and Cricklewood stations, M1/A406 junction improvements and development around Cricklewood Lane. The completion of Phase 2 represents completion of the new town centre core.

Phase 3 comprises predominantly residential development completing the Eastern Lands development zone, including a private hospital, residential development to the west of Brent Cross Shopping Centre on the north side of the A406, completion of River Brent works and completion of the A406 pedestrian bridge

Phase 4 comprises a new rail freight facility, residential development to the south of Brent Terrace, Gas Governor Square and Millennium Green Park

Phase 5 comprises the new road link across the Midland Mainline, residential development and local retail facilities along the length of Brent Terrace, new Thameslink Rail Station close to Staples Corner and Brent Terrace Park

Phase 6 comprises high rise business accommodation known as the Station Quarter, retail and hotel development adjacent to the new rail station including Northern Nature Park and new Tower Square.

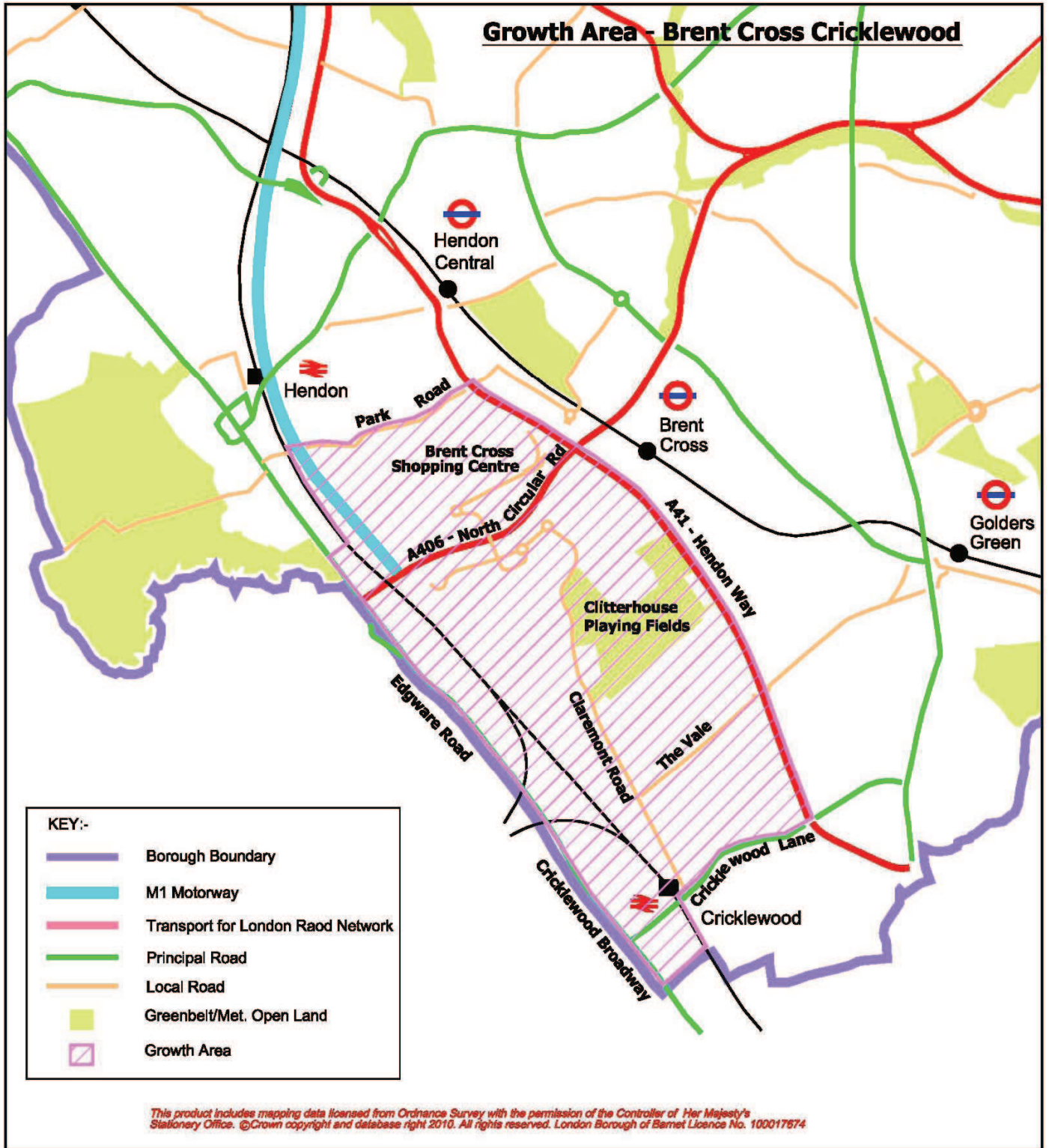
Phase 7 comprises business and retail development on the site of the existing Brent South Shopping Park.

The above phasing is consistent with the Indicative Phasing Parameter Plan approved as part of the BXC planning permission. Condition 4.2 of the planning permission permits variations to this phasing, subject to satisfactorily addressing a number of tests. The exact composition of each phase may change to that summarised above.

Status of Brent Cross – Cricklewood Proposal

In the event that the development envisaged does not proceed the Core Strategy and the Local Development Scheme may need to be reviewed and in the meantime it is intended that any future planning applications will be determined in accordance with relevant policies of the Core Strategy and other Local Plan documents, as well as the London Plan, the saved UDP policies (Chapter 12) and the Development Framework, subject to any future reviews of these documents.

Map 5 – Brent Cross – Cricklewood regeneration area



7.2.6 In the 2008 London Plan Barnet was set a housing target of 20,550 new homes over the ten year period 2007/08 to 2017/18. This equalled an annual housing target of 2,055 new homes per annum. Following completion of the Mayor's Londonwide Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) this figure was revised up to 2021 as part of the 2011 London Plan. The revised housing target for Barnet is 22,550 new homes equal to 2,255 new homes per annum over the ten year period 2011/12 to 2021/22.

- 7.2.7 Barnet has been set the challenge of meeting the fourth highest housing target in London over the ten year period 2011/12 to 2021/22. The target largely reflects the opportunities that are coming forward in Brent Cross – Cricklewood, Colindale and Mill Hill East and the priority housing estates as shown in Table 3.
- 7.2.8 Table 3 shows that nearly 14,000 new homes will be delivered in regeneration and development areas and priority housing estates by 2021 as part of our identified development pipeline. This contributes to delivery of the London Plan housing target of 22,500 by 2021.
- 7.2.9 Looking beyond 2021 we expect opportunities for housing development to diminish reflecting that the borough's capacity is finite. The London Plan states that boroughs should roll forward their target's (Barnet's new target is 2,255 new homes per annum) to cover their 15 year plan periods. This roll forward which is not based on an assessment of capacity would set Barnet a housing target of 33,825 new homes between 2011/12 and 2025/26.

Table 3 – Barnet's development pipeline and incremental housing growth– 2011/12 to 2025/26 ¹¹

| | SOURCE | 2011-16 | 2016- 21 | 2021 -26 | TOTAL |
|---|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1 | Incremental small housing schemes incorporating windfall allowance | 2050 | 980 | 980 | 4010 |
| 2 | non self contained accommodation | 635 | 635 | 635 | 1905 |
| 3 | vacant properties | 395 | 395 | 395 | 1185 |
| 4 | Total Town Centre sites | 440 | 600 | 200 | 1240 |
| 5 | Total Other Major sites | 1280 | 460 | 20 | 1760 |
| 6 | Priority Housing Estates ¹² | 850 | 670 | 640 | 2160 |
| | Regeneration and Development Areas | | | | |
| | Brent Cross - Cricklewood | 410 | 1800 | 3300 | 5510 |
| | Mill Hill East AAP | 930 | 1000 | 200 | 2130 |
| | Colindale AAP | 4470 | 3320 | 300 | 8090 |
| | North London Business Park / Oakleigh Road South Planning Brief | 150 | 250 | 0 | 400 |
| 7 | Total Regeneration and Development Areas | 5960 | 6370 | 3800 | 16130 |
| | Borough Total (sum of 1 to 7) | 11610 | 10110 | 6670 | 28390 |

- 7.2.10 Most of the major housing development in Barnet for the period 2011 to 2026 is either already planned, pipeline approved or granted planning permission. Table 3 provides a breakdown of housing development and illustrates our targeted housing growth and expected windfalls from small sites up to 2026. It estimates that over **28,000** new homes will be developed by 2026. Over **7,000** new homes are expected to be generated incrementally by small housing schemes, non self contained accommodation and vacant properties. The remaining **22,000** new homes represents consolidated housing growth as they are known schemes located in our regeneration and development areas, priority housing estates, town centres and other major sites. These known schemes form Barnet's Housing Development Pipeline.
- 7.2.11 Our expectation of housing delivery in the medium and long term assumes that small sites (schemes of less than 10 units largely generated by the private sector) will continue to

¹¹ All housing figures are for net additions

¹² Excluding Grahame Park, which is included in the Colindale AAP figures.

make a contribution to housing supply in Barnet. According to the Londonwide SHLAA small sites are expected to contribute 196 homes per annum while non self contained accommodation will provide 127 new homes per annum and vacant units brought back into use will provide 79 new homes per annum. We assume on the basis of the Londonwide SHLAA and the implementation of existing live permissions that small sites will contribute over 4,000 new homes to housing supply between 2011/12 and 2025/26. According to the SHLAA non self contained accommodation such as Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and student halls of residence is expected to contribute nearly **2,000** new homes while vacant units being brought back into use are expected to provide over **1,000** new homes.

- 7.2.12 In addition to the delivery from major growth areas of over **16,000** new homes it is a major priority to regenerate failed housing estates in Barnet. Major estates at Dollis Valley, Grahame Park, Granville Road, Spur Road - Stonegrove and West Hendon are identified on Map 2 – the Key Diagram. These estates will be subject to long term programmes of regeneration in order to tackle poor quality housing, social isolation and transform these areas into successful mixed tenure places. These estates (excluding Grahame Park which is counted as part of the Colindale regeneration area) will provide nearly 2,200 new homes by 2026. Further details on the regeneration of the priority estates is set out below.

Dollis Valley

The Dollis Valley Estate was built in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The objective of the regeneration of the Dollis Valley Estate is to establish a new revitalised neighbourhood on the edge of Green Belt. Around 440 homes on the Estate will be demolished and replaced by 620 new homes. New homes are expected to be delivered from 2013/14 as part of a programme which will be completed by 2021.

Grahame Park

The Grahame Park Estate is the largest post-war housing estate in Barnet. Regeneration proposals for Grahame Park aim to transform the estate into a 3,440-home mixed tenure neighbourhood. The Estate forms part of the Colindale Regeneration Area (Grahame Park Way Corridor of Change) as set out in the Colindale Area Action Plan. Around 1,310 homes will be demolished and 460 retained providing a net increase of 1670 new homes. The regeneration is to be taken forward in two stages. Stage A is under way and comprises 962 new homes. Stage B will comprise 2,015 new homes. Stage A is expected to be completed by 2016. Stage B is expected to be delivered between 2015 and 2026.

Granville Road

The Granville Road Estate was built in the 1960s and consists of three 15 storey tower blocks and a further three blocks of low rise housing. It is in need of capital investment to refurbish the tower blocks and also to improve the estate environment and integrate it with the surrounding community. Within the estate there are some surplus lands and these offer the opportunity to build some additional homes for private sale, and intermediate housing for sale, thus creating a mixed tenure community. The regeneration of the estate will be in two phases. The first phase the refurbishment of the tower blocks is under way and the second phase will be the building of new homes. It is expected that in the range of 130 to 140 new homes will be built. New homes are expected to be delivered by 2016.

Stonegrove and Spur Road

Stonegrove and Spur Road are two post war interconnected housing estates in Edgware which are being redeveloped as one. Regeneration will create a new neighbourhood linked to its surroundings on the edge of London's Green Belt. Nearly 1,000 new homes will be provided to replace 600 existing ones, a net increase of 400. This programme is well under way and is expected to be completed before 2021.

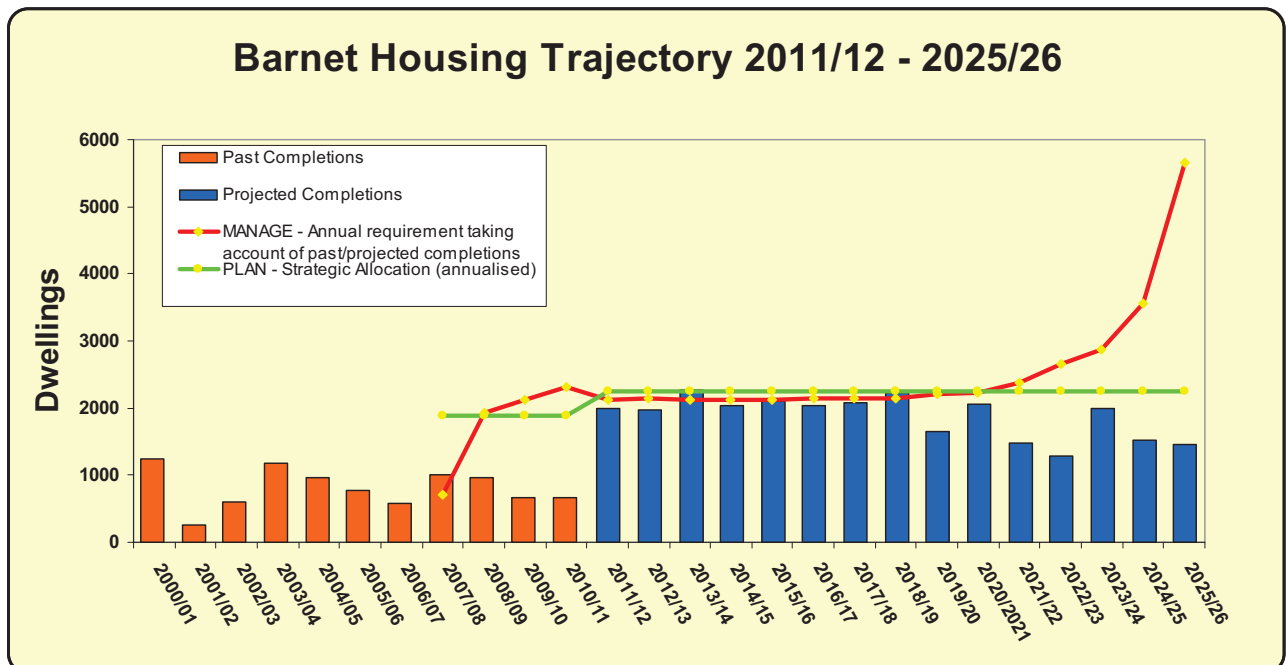
West Hendon

Located between the A5 and the Welsh Harp Reservoir the West Hendon Estate is another product of the 1960s. The existing 680 homes will be replaced by a new mixed tenure neighbourhood of up to 2,200 new homes, a net increase of 1,500 homes. In addition approximately 10,000m² of non-residential floorspace will be built to help create a

focal point around a new town square. This programme is under way. It is estimated that the scheme will be completed before 2026. The redevelopment of West Hendon is being taken forward in parallel, but independently of the regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood.

- 7.2.13 Through the Annual Monitoring Report we will provide more detail on progress with the regeneration of the priority estates as well as the regeneration and development areas.
- 7.2.14 The town centre areas are considered appropriate locations for uses that will lead to a significant increase in travel demand (retail, leisure and other commercial uses) although the quantum of development at these locations will be less than that in the identified growth areas. The priority town centres of Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley will be the main focus for commercial development and residential growth as part of mixed use development. Smaller scale development opportunities have also been identified in the remaining district town centres in Barnet as shown on Map 6 and will be promoted in the Site Allocations DPD. Table 3 provides estimates of capacity rather than rigid targets. Our town centres are estimated to have capacity to deliver over **1200** new homes.
- 7.2.15 Outside of the areas identified in the Core Strategy there are smaller scale developments of schemes typically between 10 and 25 units which are expected to provide **nearly 1,800** new homes by 2026.
- 7.2.16 Figure 1 sets out Barnet's most recent housing trajectory showing how we expect the borough to grow up to 2026. Our housing trajectory tracks the expected supply of housing over the lifetime of the Core Strategy. It provides a 'snapshot' as the trajectory evolves over time to reflect changing circumstances. The housing trajectory is updated every year and published in Barnet's Annual Monitoring Report.

Figure 1 – Housing Trajectory for Barnet



7.3 Protection

- 7.3.1 Protecting our open spaces is important to the health and well being of our residents and their quality of life. They provide opportunities for sport, recreation and play, reducing urban heating and flood risk as well as breaking up built areas. The Three Strands

Approach highlights that careful stewardship and protection of these assets is fundamental to the borough's spatial planning vision.

- 7.3.2 While over a third of the borough is protected open space another third is considered to be classic suburban development within which there are variations in building typology, size and tenure which provides a very mixed character. The Three Strands Approach highlights that the design, layout and use of the built environment can affect the quality of people's lives as well as having an impact on the perception of Barnet and the vitality of the area. The Core Strategy sets a framework for more detailed design work through the Development Management Policies DPD and subsequent Supplementary Planning Documents on Residential Design Guidance and Green Infrastructure.

7.4 Enhancement

- 7.4.1 Through the careful design of buildings and spaces new development brings with it the opportunity to improve townscape and landscape quality. Proposals that come forward in the growth areas should be creative and innovative, be sensitive to existing buildings and surrounding areas, incorporate both urban and green spaces and include appropriate landmark buildings including tall buildings. Overall the design of the new development schemes will be expected to enhance the qualities of their immediate location and wider setting, as well as improve the quality of life for those people living and working in the area.
- 7.4.2 The Residential Design Guidance SPD¹³ will take forward the six housing typologies (linear rural, suburban periphery, suburban, suburban terrace, urban terrace and flats) identified in the Characterisation Study as representing forms of residential development in Barnet. The SPD will ensure that new residential development is of the highest possible design quality. Within the framework of the six housing typologies it will highlight the importance of adopting a design led approach to create imaginative, safe, attractive and functional homes that respond appropriately with their surroundings.
- 7.4.3 The Green Infrastructure SPD¹⁴ sets out a strategic approach for the creation, protection and management of networks of green infrastructure. This is within the framework of an All London Green Grid. Green Infrastructure creates a sense of place allowing for greater appreciation of valuable landscapes and cultural heritage. It increases access to open spaces and supports healthy living. It also contributes to urban cooling helping to combat the heat island effect that large cities suffer from.

Policy CS 1 – Barnet's Place Shaping Strategy – Protection, Enhancement and Consolidated Growth – The Three Strands Approach

Barnet's place shaping strategy is to concentrate and consolidate housing and economic growth in well located areas that provide opportunities for development, creating a quality environment that will have positive economic impacts on the deprived neighbourhoods that surround them. The key diagram sets out the areas where we expect housing and economic growth.

The council, along with its partners, will focus major housing and economic growth in the most suitable locations and manage it to ensure that we deliver sustainable development, while continuing to conserve and enhance the distinctiveness of Barnet as a place to live work and visit. An appropriate level of transport provision will be provided as the regeneration schemes roll out.

We will seek the highest standards of urban design in order to generate development proposals of landmark quality and create an accessible safe and attractive environment for people who live in, work in or visit Barnet's areas of housing and economic growth.

¹³ See timetable for production in LDS

¹⁴ See timetable for production in LDS

We will only support proposals for tall buildings in the strategic locations we have identified in Core Strategy Policy CS5 subject to them not having an unacceptably harmful impact on their surroundings.

We will work with partners and other relevant organisations to secure 'critical', 'necessary' and 'preferred' infrastructure as set out in Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan and ensure that new development funds infrastructure through S106 and other funding mechanisms.

As our focus of housing and employment growth we will promote opportunities on the west side of the borough in the strategically identified North West London – Luton Coordination Corridor. We will promote the following **regeneration** and **development** areas in the west of the borough:

- Brent Cross – Cricklewood regeneration area - 5,510 new homes by 2026
- Colindale regeneration area - 8,100 new homes by 2026¹⁵
- Mill Hill East development area – 2,100 new homes by 2026

Core Strategy Policy CS 3 sets out the areas where we expect :

In the range of 22,000 new homes to be delivered between 2011/12 and 2021/22 to meet the ten-year housing target in the London Plan

In the range of 28,000 new homes to be delivered between 2011/12 and 2025/26 as Barnet's 15 year housing target

Core Strategy Policy CS 4 sets out our aim to create successful communities by providing quality homes and housing choice

Consolidated growth will be complemented by:

Protection of

- Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land that covers over one third of Barnet
- Core Strategy Policy CS 5 sets out how we will ensure that development helps to protect and enhance Barnet's heritage and character
- Core Strategy Policy CS 7 sets out how in order to create a greener Barnet we will enhance and protect our open spaces

Enhancement of

- priority town centres (Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley) where we will promote mixed use development in accordance with the place making policies set out within the Core Strategy;
- the historic suburban environment comprising 16 conservation areas, over 2,200 listed buildings and registered historic parks and gardens
- Core Strategy Policy CS5 sets out how we will, through Residential Design Guidance SPD, develop a framework to protect and enhance those high quality suburbs not protected by conservation area designation.
- Core Strategy Policy CS 6 sets out how we will realise development opportunities in town centres in order to promote them as successful and vibrant places
- Core Strategy Policy CS 8 sets out how in order to provide opportunity for economic advancement we will ensure a strong and prosperous Barnet

7.5 Brent Cross - Cricklewood regeneration area

7.5.1 The policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood is designed to promote comprehensive re-development of the Brent Cross – Cricklewood regeneration area (as shown in Map 5) which can take advantage of its strategic location and facilitate the regeneration of the surrounding communities in Barnet and the adjoining boroughs.

¹⁵ Phasing of development between 2011 and 2026 forms part of the development phased between 2007 and 2021 in the Colindale AAP. Completions between 2007 and 2011 account for the lower figure in the Core Strategy.

- 7.5.2 In view of the substantial progress that has been made towards the implementation of the relevant UDP saved policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood we consider that it is inappropriate at this time to replace the suite of policies listed in Appendix A. In order to provide a detailed policy framework to secure the future comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross Cricklewood these ‘saved’ policies will continue to operate unless and until it is considered appropriate to replace them. Specific monitoring indicators for Brent Cross – Cricklewood are set out in Appendix B. These indicators are closely aligned with the progress to be made under the planning permission in securing the implementation and delivery of regeneration before 2015/16 including in particular key infrastructure as identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and providing new housing. The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme. This may involve the review of the Core Strategy and may if necessary or appropriate lead to introduction of new DPD or SPD to further guide and control the comprehensive regeneration of the Brent Cross – Cricklewood area.

Policy CS 2 – Brent Cross – Cricklewood

Brent Cross – Cricklewood is identified as an Opportunity Area in the London Plan and on Map 5. It will be a major focus for the creation of new jobs and homes, building upon the area’s strategic location and its key rail facilities.

We will seek comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross – Cricklewood in accordance with the London Plan, the saved UDP policies (Chapter 12) and the adopted Development Framework. This will provide the key elements of the local planning policy framework for deciding future planning applications unless and until replaced by new DPD or SPD as a result of the Local Plan Monitoring and review process. It is considered likely that comprehensive regeneration will be achieved in accordance with the planning permission. If this proves unlikely then we will consider whether in the circumstances the Local Plan needs to be reviewed.

Specific monitoring indicators for Brent Cross – Cricklewood are set out in Appendix B and we will have regard to them in monitoring the progress made in the implementation and delivery of regeneration, including the achievement of important milestones (as set out in Appendix B) towards the initiation of development described in the information box on Brent Cross – Cricklewood.

It is anticipated that the BXC Development Partners are committed to progressing the project as quickly as reasonably practicable towards commencement of the development subject to securing the necessary planning approvals, highways orders and site assembly. On the basis of these indicators we expect that comprehensive re-development will commence in relation to Phase 1 at some time between 2015 and 2017.

If in the light of progress made in securing pre-commencement approvals and other related procedures as well as actual delivery of the development these milestones are not achieved (or are not likely to be capable of being delivered) we will consider the possible need for a review of the Core Strategy policy on Brent Cross – Cricklewood in the light of progress that is being made in delivering this important strategic project.

The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme. This may involve the review of the Core Strategy and may if necessary or appropriate lead to introduction of new DPD or SPD to further guide and control the comprehensive regeneration of the Brent Cross – Cricklewood area.

Key References

- Annual Monitoring Reports
- Barnet Characterisation Study
- Barnet Tall Buildings Study
- Barnet Unitary Development Plan, 2006
- Barnet Unitary Development Plan - Secretary of State's Direction on Saved Policies, 2009
- Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005
- Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009
- London Plan, 2011
- London Plan (Consolidated with Alterations since 2004) 2008
- London Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, 2009
- Local Development Scheme
- Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009
- Successful Suburbs, London Councils, 2007
- Three Strands Approach

8 Distribution of housing growth

- 8.1.1 Barnet is the most populous borough in London. Barnet is growing and its population is changing. By 2026 it is estimated that an additional 40,000 people will be living here, an increase of 14%.
- 8.1.2 The Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land accounts for nearly 36% of Barnet representing one of the major challenges to new housing development in the borough. If we are to adapt successfully to Barnet's growing population and protect Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land we need to make the best use of brownfield (also known as previously developed) land.
- 8.1.3 Current national planning guidance¹⁶ on housing set out in Planning Policy Statement 3 - Housing, advises that high quality housing should aim to create places that meet the needs of people, maintain and improve local character, and are accessible to open spaces, give choice to transport options and local facilities.
- 8.1.4 The overall spatial strategy for Barnet is illustrated in the Key Diagram – Map 2. This shows the broad location of Barnet's growth areas. The North West London-Luton Coordination Corridor is a growth area of regional importance. Development has been identified on the western side of the borough at Brent Cross as well as Colindale and Mill Hill East as Barnet's strategic contribution to the corridor.
- 8.1.5 Policy CS 3 sets out our housing growth target and when, where and how this growth will be delivered in Barnet. Barnet's housing trajectory up to 2025/26 shows that in the region of **28,000** new homes will be built in Barnet over the 15 year life of this Core Strategy (between 2011/12 and 2025/26). Development sites in the regeneration and development areas are identified in the Mill Hill East Area Action Plan (adopted 2009), the Colindale Area Action Plan (adopted 2010), and the adopted Brent Cross Cricklewood and West Hendon Development Framework (Supplementary Planning Guidance adopted in 2005). Further details on these regeneration and development areas are set out in Section 7. Of this figure nearly **16,000** new homes will reflect the potential of Colindale, Cricklewood - Brent Cross and Mill Hill East. The North London Business Park and Oakleigh Road South is identified as a smaller development area in the east of the borough. It is estimated that in the range of **400** new homes will be delivered as part of a mixed use development in accordance with the adopted planning brief of June 2006.
- 8.1.6 It is estimated that in the region of 2,200 new homes will be delivered through the regeneration of housing estates at Dollis Valley (subject to a new masterplan), Granville Road, Stonegrove / Spur Road and West Hendon¹⁷.
- 8.1.7 Choices and opportunities for town centre enhancement and infill will be identified through the programme of priority town centre frameworks for Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley and the Site Allocations DPD. Our town centres have the capacity to deliver a further 1,200 new homes by 2025/26. Policy CS 6 - Promoting Barnet's Town Centres sets out our approach to all town centres in Barnet.
- 8.1.8 Our Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) includes the Housing Trajectory which provides more detail on how London Plan targets are being delivered. The AMR also sets out Barnet's five year supply of housing and the allocated schemes that make up the components of this supply. As supporting evidence for the Core Strategy we have published a trajectory that extends to 2025/26 (see Figure 2). This trajectory will be updated annually.

¹⁶ In 2012 the suite of national planning policy statements and planning policy guidance notes will be replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework

¹⁷ The number of new homes at Grahame Park is already included within the Colindale AAP.

- 8.1.9 Central to our overall approach to adapting to Barnet's targeted housing growth is ensuring that it is managed in a way that provides opportunity and benefits to the borough and that it protects and enhances our environment, heritage and quality of life.
- 8.1.10 A key part of our Core Strategy is to ensure that our growing population is supported by necessary infrastructure and services. Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan identifies the borough's infrastructure needs up to 2026 and sets out the key infrastructure programmes and projects needed to deliver the Core Strategy.

8.2 Mixed use development

- 8.2.1 The provision of an appropriate mix of uses can also contribute to managing Barnet's growth and making efficient use of brownfield land. The benefits of a mix of uses is that they can :
- reduce the need to travel, reducing congestion and helping to improve air and noise quality
 - increase the supply of housing especially above ground floor commercial development in town centres
 - promote successful places with a range of activities that are used throughout the day, increasing safety and security
- 8.2.2 Encouraging greater housing development within or on the edge of some of Barnet's town centres is an option that allows mixed uses which add vibrancy and greater all round activity. This can provide attractive locations for people who want to live close to services, jobs and public transport, for example, older people, single people and couples. Town centre locations may not be suitable for the majority of families or for those who need access to their own car, as parking is likely to be restricted. Encouraging a mix of uses including residential means that valuable space is utilised more efficiently through multi-purpose use of facilities such as car parks and local services.
- 8.2.3 Further detail on our approach to mixed use development is set out in DM11 Development Principles for Barnet's Town Centres.

8.3 Optimising housing density to achieve appropriate development

- 8.3.1 One way of making the most efficient use of our land and buildings is to encourage higher densities. We will encourage higher density development in the regeneration and development areas, the four priority town centres and other identified locations that are accessible by public transport. However density should not drive development, it is an important factor to take into account along with local context, design, transport accessibility and infrastructure.
- 8.3.2 With regard to the London Plan sustainable residential quality density matrix we will expect to optimise densities rather than maximise them. However there will be instances where developments are appropriate within the upper end of the density range set out in the London Plan¹⁸. We will utilise the London Plan density matrix to reflect local context, public transport accessibility and availability of social infrastructure.

Policy CS 3 - Distribution of Growth in Meeting Housing Aspirations

On the basis of our Three Strands Approach we expect that in the range of 28,000 new homes will be provided within the lifetime of this Core Strategy 2011/12 to 2025/26.

As our focus of growth we will promote opportunities on the west side of the borough in the strategically identified North West London – Luton Coordination Corridor. We will promote the following regeneration and development areas in the Corridor:

- Brent Cross - Cricklewood

¹⁸ See density matrix at Table 3.2 in London Plan

- Colindale
- Mill Hill East

These areas are expected to provide in the range of 16,000 new homes between 2011/12 to 2025/26. An appropriate level of transport provision will be provided as the regeneration schemes roll out.

We will, in order to meet the Decent Homes standard, and deliver a greater range and variety of accommodation, also promote the regeneration of priority housing estates at:

- Dollis Valley
- West Hendon
- Granville Road
- Stonegrove and Spur Road
- Grahame Park¹⁹

These areas are expected to provide in the range of 2,200 new homes between 2011/12 to 2025/26

We will also promote the development area of the North London Business Park and Oakleigh Road South in order to develop in the range of 400 new homes by 2020/21 as part of a mixed use development in accordance with the adopted Planning Brief of June 2006

Through the regeneration and development areas, regeneration estates and town centres housing will be provided in the following 5 year phases as set out in Table 3. Figures are net additions.

2011/12 to 2015/16

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Brent Cross – Cricklewood | 410 new homes |
| • Colindale | 4,500 new homes |
| • Mill Hill East | 930 new homes |
| • North London Business Park | 150 new homes |
| • Priority Estates of | |
| • Dollis Valley | 150 new homes |
| • Granville Road | 140 new homes |
| • Stonegrove and Spur Road; | 100 new homes |
| • West Hendon | 450 new homes |
| TOTAL | 6,830 new homes |

2016/17 to 2020/21

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| • Brent Cross - Cricklewood | 1,800 new homes |
| • Colindale | 3,320 new homes |
| • Mill Hill East | 1,000 new homes |
| • North London Business Park | 250 new homes |
| • Priority Estates of | |
| • Dollis Valley | 30 new homes |
| • Stonegrove and Spur Road; | 190 new homes |
| • West Hendon | 450 new homes |
| TOTAL | 7,040 new homes |

2021/22 to 2025/26

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| • Brent Cross - Cricklewood | 3,300 new homes |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|

¹⁹ The regeneration of Grahame Park and development of 1,670 net additional homes before 2026 is incorporated into the Colindale regeneration area

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| • Colindale | 300 new homes |
| • Mill Hill East | 200 new homes |
| • Priority Estates of | |
| • West Hendon | 640 new homes |
| TOTAL | 4,400 new homes |

Through a programme of town centre strategies we will develop frameworks for the town centres of Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley. These locations will provide the main focus for enhancement and infill housing development: and will provide for residential uses above ground floor level

Our strategic approach on further development opportunity sites will be set within the context of the density matrix in the London Plan. We will seek to optimise rather than simply maximise housing density to reflect local context, public transport accessibility and provision of social infrastructure.

Key References

- Annual Monitoring Reports
- Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005
- Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009
- London Plan, 2011
- Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009
- North London Business Park and Oakleigh Road South, Planning Brief, 2006
- Three Strands Approach

9 Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet

- 9.1.1 In order to create successful communities we need to maximise housing choice providing a range of sizes and types of accommodation that can meet aspirations and increase access to affordable and decent new homes. This includes homes for those who need larger dwellings including families, as well as homes for smaller households such as single key workers, or older and vulnerable people who may require accommodation in order to live independently.
- 9.1.2 Barnet's specialist Housing Strategy adopted in April 2010 sets out our housing priorities and how we are going to deliver these by 2025. Our overarching objective is 'providing housing choices that meet the needs and aspirations of Barnet residents'. Our Housing Strategy emphasises that to improve choice we need to increase housing supply, including family sized homes. We also need to improve the condition and energy efficiency of the existing housing stock, promote mixed communities and maximise opportunities for home ownership. We need to provide housing related support options to maximise independence.
- 9.1.3 A key message from Barnet's Housing Strategy is that we do not consider that social rented housing is the only suitable option for people in housing need, when the private rented sector can in many cases provide flexibility and choice, as well as meeting housing aspirations.
- 9.1.4 Public investment in housing is likely to be significantly reduced during the lifetime of this Core Strategy. Our partners have responsibilities for delivering housing, including Registered Social Landlords, private developers and land owners. We are committed to exploring new and innovative investment models within Barnet that will deliver new homes and increase the housing choices available to residents.
- 9.1.5 In focusing on the quality of housing that is needed and the types of homes that are required we will consider sustainability, the efficient use of natural resources, standard of design and construction, contribution to local character and integration of the development with social, green and physical infrastructure. These wider considerations are dealt with throughout the Core Strategy.

9.2 Homes of different sizes

- 9.2.1 The range of housing sizes sought in Barnet should reflect how we expect households to change in the next fifteen years. Barnet has a housing stock of 133,000 units. The majority of units are houses which account for 62% of the stock. The range of home sizes we seek should reflect the size and type of households that we expect to live in Barnet. The housing needs of the borough should take into account the size of households, affordability and the special needs of vulnerable people.
- 9.2.2 The North London SHMA highlights that the household structure of Barnet reflects the relatively high proportion of young adults and children within its population when compared with England. In particular 33% of all Barnet households contained children, the majority of these comprising an adult couple with children. Despite having on average fewer older persons almost 23% of households contain only pensioners, with 64% of these being single pensioner households. Over 90% of all households contained four or less people with the majority of those with larger households consisting of a group of adults with children.
- 9.2.3 We know from household projections that Barnet's households are forecast to get smaller; the average household size will fall to 2.29 persons per household by 2016. The household size makeup is therefore very mixed. Given the variations in wealth, culture, ethnicity, sexual orientation, physical and mental disability combined with the relative

attractiveness of the borough for different types of households and a complex picture of future housing need emerges.

- 9.2.4 According to the 2006 Barnet Housing Needs Survey nearly 1 in 4 households stated that their current home was too small. About 20% of households stated a need or likelihood of moving in the next two years. Accommodation size is the main reason for households needing or expecting to move in future. The Survey found that over 60% of aspiring movers wanted to stay in Barnet.
- 9.2.5 The North London SHMA highlighted that between 2002 and 2007 Barnet lost more people through out migration than it attracted through in migration representing a net loss of 12,000 people. The most popular destinations for ex-Barnet residents were Hertfordshire (in particular neighbouring Hertsmere) and Bedfordshire as well as the neighbouring borough of Harrow. Barnet attracted new residents from across North London in particular Brent, Haringey and Camden. This forms part of a pattern of migration from Central London to Outer London and then northwards.
- 9.2.6 In terms of the age composition of those leaving Barnet the North London SHMA highlighted a net loss of 5,940 migrants in the 25-44 age range and a further 3,510 in the 45-64 years range. However, the authority has experienced a smaller net out-migration of less than 600 people in the 16-24 years age range indicating that it is older adults and families that are more likely to leave the area.
- 9.2.7 Barnet's Core Strategy has to address the demands for family accommodation at lower densities while meeting the demands for higher densities driven by the planned growth as part of our development pipeline and housing targets in the London Plan. This is combined with the need to protect the Green Belt and the borough's open spaces. As well as accommodating families we should make sure that developments do not deter shared or multi-generational usage, particularly with an ageing population, to ensure the delivery of truly mixed communities in Lifetime Neighbourhoods.
- 9.2.8 Section 4.3 on Barnet's People has set out how the population is changing and how the number of births in Barnet is one of the highest in London. With high levels of planned housing growth and a changing population with more children and more older residents a key concern for the council is that residents are able to secure access to the right accommodation in the right place. It is important that the size and mix of homes delivered will match the size and composition of Barnet's changing population. In assessing our housing supply as part of our Annual Monitoring Report we have conducted research on 'are we building the right homes for the next generation?'
- 9.2.9 Our ongoing assessment of house building in Barnet has highlighted that:
- Over 1,100 new houses have been built since 2004
 - Nearly 5,000 new flats have been built since 2004
 - Housing supply is skewed towards flatted development, over 80% of new homes are flats
 - Few flats have potential for family accommodation, less than 10% of new flats have three or more bedrooms
- 9.2.10 We found that one and two bed units are the dominant type of unit built in Barnet accounting for nearly 80% of new homes. New build developments have provided the main source of supply of units representing 76% of housing developments in the borough. Other forms of development such as change of use (i.e. from office to residential) and conversions (i.e. from houses to flats) as well as extensions also contribute to housing development in the borough but they are likely to produce smaller units as they utilise existing stock. Over 50% of residential conversions generate one bedroom units. Family homes such as those containing three bedrooms or more are likely to be generated via new-build developments.

- 9.2.11 Our priorities for family homes are set against this background of a changing population and trends in housing supply. The research on building the right homes is ongoing and updated through the Annual Monitoring Report.
- 9.2.12 The Mayor's Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) for London suggests that the largest requirement for market as well as social rented housing are 2 bedroom units while the largest requirement for intermediate housing is 4+ beds. Barnet, as part of the North London Housing sub-region jointly commissioned a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA).
- 9.2.13 On the basis of evidence on recent household formation, in-migration, out-migration and projected household dissolution for each borough the North London SHMA has identified housing mix requirements by dwelling size and tenure type over the next five years for Barnet. The dwelling size priorities will guide the mix of housing sought across Barnet and provide a basis for determining the mix of homes on individual sites. Details of how the priorities will be used to guide development proposals are set out in the Development Management Policies DPD. Our dwelling size priorities are for family accommodation across all tenures :
- For social rented housing –homes with 3 bedrooms are the highest priority
 - For intermediate affordable housing – homes with 4 bedrooms are the highest priority
 - For market housing – homes with 4 bedrooms are the highest priority, homes with 3 bedrooms are a medium priority
- 9.2.14 The North London SHMA bed size requirement model, based on housing affordability according to London Plan definitions, in general supports our prioritisation of family accommodation. It shows that in the market sector there is the need for family homes of at least 2 bedrooms, in particular 4+ bedrooms. This supports our stated levels of priority. In the intermediate and social sector there is also a marked need for 4+ bedrooms as well as 2 and 3 bedrooms.

9.3 Supported housing

- 9.3.1 About 31% of older people in Barnet live alone and this proportion is expected to increase. There are households with support needs in all housing tenures in Barnet although the most serious problems are in the rented sectors. According to the 2006 Housing Needs Survey nearly one in three of households with support needs live in the private rented sector, about one in five are in Barnet Homes²⁰ stock. Those households with support needs who are also in unsuitable housing are most likely to be owner occupiers who have a mortgage.
- 9.3.2 Older people in Barnet are more likely to be owner occupiers without a mortgage and more likely to under occupy their properties with 75% of older occupiers living in 3 or 4 bed properties. Many older people households are asset rich but cash poor, and struggle to maintain their homes. National research reveals that the majority of older people would prefer to either remain living in their home, or would prefer accommodation which is part of the ordinary housing stock but is designed to meet their needs. With the numbers of Barnet residents living into their 70s and 80s set to increase we have calculated the amount of housing that will be required to meet the needs of an ageing population.
- 9.3.3 On the basis of the model recommended in Lifetime Homes: Lifetime Neighbourhoods - National Strategy for Housing in an Ageing Society we estimate that our requirements for supported housing are changing. Our analysis shows there is an oversupply of traditional rented sheltered housing with a peak of 300 units expected by 2015. It also highlights the need to provide more housing which can provide care and support for the increasing number of lone residents over the age of 75 years. At present there is limited housing

²⁰ Barnet Homes is an arms length management organisation which manages housing stock on behalf of the council

choice for older people requiring an alternative to general housing. Sheltered housing for rent accounts for 89% of specialist accommodation for older people.

- 9.3.4 The Ageing Society assessment shows a continuous requirement for extra care accommodation of about 500 additional homes over the next 15 years. Extra care housing comprises properties which are ordinary flats suitable for older people which provide security and privacy but have a range of facilities on the premises, with support and 24 hour care. We are currently exploring the potential for remodelling the Barnet Homes sheltered housing accommodation as sheltered plus housing, in order to address higher support needs of tenants, and extra care hubs which can provide homes for those in need of supported housing including older people and young disabled people. We would not expect young disabled people to be housed in specialist housing designed for older people. Such hubs will have the potential to provide support services to a wider community of people.
- 9.3.5 The council is committed to reducing expenditure on residential care provision in order to help promote more independent living for vulnerable residents. The Ageing Society assessment also highlights the over-supply of residential care homes in Barnet. In order to widen housing choice and help residents live more independent lives we are encouraging the remodelling of residential care homes in Barnet. Policy CS 11 - Improving Health and Well Being in Barnet addresses the issue of care homes.
- 9.3.6 We recognise the importance of helping to promote independence for vulnerable young people, particularly those leaving care, and the need for accommodation to be accompanied by support services. Such services will help provide a pathway away from worklessness and reduce dependency, helping these young people to achieve long term stability within their lives.

9.4 Addressing other housing needs

- 9.4.1 For many residents the private rented sector provides a flexible option which is more likely to be available in an area of their own choice. We are working with private sector landlords to improve conditions in the private rented sector..
- 9.4.2 We have commissioned research in the North London Housing Sub Region to map the housing needs of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups. This showed that employment opportunities were much more important to households than housing, but also that social rented housing was seen as the least desirable tenure, acting at best as a stepping stone to other tenures, in particular owner occupation.
- 9.4.3 Barnet's 2006 Housing Needs Survey estimated that there are about 18,000 households in the borough that contain at least one person with a recognised support need, and that the greatest need amongst these households was for a wide range of adaptations and improvements to the home. A level access shower unit and a lift/stair lift are the most commonly required.

9.5 Lifetime Homes

- 9.5.1 More residents are living longer and more older people are choosing to remain in their own homes rather than go into residential care. Lifetime Homes are ordinary homes specifically designed to address a wide-range of mobility difficulties without being tailored to the specific circumstances of the household. The Lifetime Homes Standard incorporates 16 design criteria that can be universally applied to new homes at minimal cost. Each design feature contributes to health and well-being and supports changing needs of residents at different life-stages. In line with the London Plan (Policy 3.8 Housing Choice) we expect all new homes to meet Lifetime Homes Standards. By extending these principles we can create Lifetime Neighbourhoods (as set out at Policy CS5 – Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality places)
- 9.5.2 In order to deliver well-designed homes where people will want to live and stay a proposal will be expected to meet Building for Life standards. Through a partnership led by CABE and the Home Builders Federation the Building for Life website sets out 20 criteria which

provide a national standard for well designed homes and neighbourhoods. We will also expect that 10% of new homes will either be fully wheelchair accessible or be easily adapted for wheelchair users.

9.6 Affordable homes

- 9.6.1 Home ownership remains beyond the reach of many residents in Barnet and the numbers in temporary accommodation remains unacceptably high. The private rented sector now provides more homes for people in housing need than the social rented sector. The reduction in mortgage credit has restricted housing choices for many residents with standard home ownership the most expensive tenure. Shared ownership in Barnet is generally cheaper than the cost of renting a similar home privately. High house prices partly reflect the attractiveness of Barnet's suburban environment but mean that many sections of the community are priced out of market housing. One of the implications is that people may leave Barnet so as to find cheaper housing locations, or choose to live in overcrowded conditions which have an impact on physical and mental health. Some may take on debts that they are unable to afford. There are therefore social, economic and equitable dimensions to the lack of affordable housing in Barnet (and London as a whole).
- 9.6.2 Councils and Registered Social Landlords in the North London Sub Region (which includes Barnet) commissioned work on housing aspirations amongst 16 different BME communities. The North London Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Study revealed that social housing is not considered a tenure of aspiration. However the level of social housing rent is attractive to those in low paid work as it enables them to make savings and eventually become home owners. The Study highlighted that views on social housing and home ownership were more consistent than they were divergent across the different ethnic groups.
- 9.6.3 We are keen to encourage a 'housing journey' for as many as possible so as to meet the aspirations of home ownership. Housing and planning policies and strategies can assist in providing greater flexibility between tenures, maximising housing choice on a lifelong pathway from social rented through intermediate and into owner occupation.
- 9.6.4 We have completed a Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) (see para 9.2.4) which identifies future housing requirements for all types of housing in Barnet for the coming 5 years. Once household formation and migration in and out of the borough are taken into account the SHMA estimates a need for 643 new homes per annum (equivalent to 3,215 new homes by 2015/16). This SHMA figure for Barnet to meet its identified housing requirements is significantly lower than the London Plan target of 2,225 new homes per annum.
- 9.6.5 In order to calculate our affordable housing requirement the SHMA has broken down the all tenure housing requirement to reflect the proportion of households (18.2%) in North London that reside in Barnet. This generates a figure for 1,826 new affordable homes by 2015/16. To meet our identified housing requirements this equates to a 15 year figure of 5,478 new affordable homes by 2025/26 equal to 366 per annum. This is Barnet's minimum affordable housing target.
- 9.6.6 Barnet has the fourth highest housing target in London as the borough has the capacity to deliver more housing than is needed locally and is capable of making a significant contribution to London's overall growth as a Successful London Suburb and Opportunity Borough. In order to make such a contribution and to accord with the London Plan (Policy 3.11 – Affordable Housing Targets) we will seek to deliver 40% of new homes as being affordable. This equates to a 40% boroughwide affordable housing target.
- 9.6.7 Barnet's Affordable Housing Viability Study (2010) has tested the ability of a range of sites throughout Barnet to provide varying levels of affordable housing, with and without grant and with various tenure mixes, on a range of sites in various existing uses. For the purposes of establishing an affordable housing target, if a residential scheme with a given level of affordable housing and other planning obligations has a higher value than the existing use value plus a margin to incentivise the owner to release the site for

development, the scheme can be judged to be viable. The 2010 Study indicates that 40% to 50% affordable housing could be financially viable particularly on sites with lower existing use value such as industrial and community uses. Barnet is not a prime industrial location. As set out in Section 13.5 only 3% of employment land in Barnet is worthy of release. We also seek through Policy DM14 – New and Existing Employment Space to retain community and education uses as set out in Policy DM13 – Community and Education Uses as such infrastructure supports the Borough as it grows. There are therefore limited opportunities for redevelopment of industrial and community uses to support a boroughwide target of 50% affordable housing. We consider that, as demonstrated by the 2010 Study, a 40% boroughwide target is financially viable and appropriate in helping to address our priorities for delivering family homes.

- 9.6.8 The Area Action Plans for Mill Hill East and Colindale both set out an affordable housing policy which seeks, in line with the 2008 London Plan 50% target, to negotiate the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing subject to viability.
- 9.6.9 The results of the SHMA reflect that although Barnet has a small social housing stock the council is pro-active in utilising the private sector to house households in housing need who are unable to access social rented housing. An increased supply of decent housing in the private rented sector is of value to households wanting to live in Barnet but not able to access owner occupation. The SHMA is based on affordability considerations. It does not account for housing allocations policies of local authorities specifically in terms of single and couple households with no other reasonable preference²¹ criteria such as medical or welfare reasons to be allocated social rented accommodation. The SHMA also fails to understand housing aspirations such as those already identified amongst BME communities. These factors have skewed the SHMA results for intermediate accommodation in Barnet.
- 9.6.10 The Mayor states in the London Plan that as a long term strategic target 60% of new affordable housing should be for social renting, especially for families, and that 40% should be for the range of intermediate housing products outlined in the London Housing Strategy to meet different needs. We share the Mayor's objective to widen home ownership through providing a range of different types of intermediate housing and we will seek to ensure that 60% of affordable housing is social rented and 40 % intermediate.
- 9.6.11 In February 2007 we adopted a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Affordable Housing in order to clearly set out Barnet's approach and provide detailed advice and implementation guidance to developers, including Registered Social Landlords (RSLs). The revised SPD²² reflects our Core Strategy policy direction on affordable housing.
- 9.6.12 The affordable housing threshold will also be triggered by re-development on sites larger than 0.4 hectares (including conversions). The London Plan requires boroughs to set a numeric target for the amount of affordable housing needed over the life of their Local Plans and separate targets for social rented and intermediate housing. The London Plan also expects sites that are capable of delivering 10 units or more to provide affordable housing.
- 9.6.13 In order to provide a differential mix requirement for different types of provision – social housing, intermediate provision and market provision - the basis of calculations for the affordable housing requirement will relate to a combination of units, the number of habitable rooms or the floorspace of the residential development. In schemes where the affordable housing categories involve dwellings with more habitable rooms-per-dwelling than market provision, or different sizes of habitable rooms within different tenures, it is more appropriate for the calculation of the affordable housing proportion to be in terms of habitable rooms or floorspace.

²¹ 'reasonable preference' defined in Housing Act 1996 (as amended)

²² See timetable for production in LDS

- 9.6.14 Affordable housing provision is normally required on-site. In exceptional circumstances it may be provided off-site or through a commuted payment. These exceptional circumstances are set out in our Affordable Housing SPD otherwise para 3.74 in the London Plan will apply.

9.7 Gypsies and travellers and Travelling Showpeople

- 9.7.1 In March 2012 the Government published Planning Policy for Traveller Sites. Government policy requires Local Plans to set out criteria for the location of gypsy and traveller pitches and plots for travelling showpeople. This will help to guide the allocation of any sites/plots and to manage unexpected demand. To meet the long term needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople we will seek to identify appropriate sites through the Site Allocations DPD. The pan London Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation and Needs Assessment 2008 (GTANA) sets out a range of minimum to maximum pitch requirements for Barnet up to 2017 from zero to 15 pitches for Gypsies and Travellers and up to 2 plots for Travelling Showpeople. The council will work with sub-regional partners to ensure that the evidence base is reviewed. This may change the range of maximum to minimum targets set out above.

Policy CS 4 - Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet

We will aim to create successful communities in Barnet by:

- seeking to ensure a mix of housing products in the affordable and market sectors to provide choice for all households and enable Barnet residents to progress on a housing journey that can meet the aspirations of home ownership
- seeking to ensure that all new homes are built to Lifetime Homes Standards and that through extending the inclusive design principles embedded in Lifetime Homes we can create Lifetime Neighbourhoods that are welcoming, accessible, and inviting for everyone, regardless of age, or health, or disability.
- seeking a range of dwelling sizes and types of housing including family and lifetime homes that meets our identified housing priorities and does not undermine suburban character or local distinctiveness. Policy CS 5 on Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character to Create High Quality Places sets out how we will secure high quality design.
- seeking a variety of housing related support options that maximise the independence of vulnerable residents including young people, people with disabilities, older people, homeless people and other vulnerable adults
- delivering a minimum affordable housing target of 5,500 new affordable homes by 2025/26 and seeking a boroughwide target of 40% affordable homes on sites capable of accommodating ten or more dwellings
- seeking an appropriate mix of affordable housing of 60% social rented and 40% intermediate for Barnet that will support our objectives of widening home ownership and providing family homes
- on sites which are suitable for the provision of an element of affordable housing, we may exceptionally accept the provision of off-site housing, or a commuted payment instead of such provision

Proposals for sites for Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople must have regard to the following criteria:

- close proximity to a main road and safe access to the site with adequate space on site to allow for the manoeuvring of vehicles
- reasonable access to local shops and other community facilities in particular, schools and health care
- the scale of the site is in keeping with local context and character

- appropriate landscaping and planting to address impact on amenity and enable integration of the site with the surrounding environment
- any use on the site does not have any unacceptable adverse impacts on neighbouring residents
- appropriate facilities must be provided on-site including water and waste disposal

Within the Site Allocations DPD we will seek to identify land to meet the long term needs of Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Showpeople based on an evidence base of the range of pitches/plots required in Barnet.

We will monitor the delivery of additional housing against our target of 28,000 new homes by 2025/26 and will seek to maintain supply at the rate necessary to meet or exceed the target. In seeking to maintain the housing supply we will adjust the type and mix of housing sought, having regard to the financial viability of development, the housing market and the needs of different groups.

Key References

- Affordable Housing, SPD
- Affordable Housing Viability Study, 2010
- Annual Monitoring Reports.
- Barnet Housing Needs Survey, 2006
- Barnet Housing Strategy, 2010
- Barnet Maps, Facts & Figures, Insight Team, LB Barnet
- Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010
- Lifetime Homes – Lifetime Neighbourhoods – National Strategy for Housing in an Ageing Society, CLG, 2008
- Lifetime Homes Standard - <http://www.lifetimehomes.org.uk/pages/revise-d-design-criteria.html>
- London Housing Strategy, 2010
- London Plan, 2011
- London Strategic Housing Market Assessment, 2008
- Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009
- North London Sub-Region Black and Minority Ethnic Housing Study, 2009
- North London Strategic Housing Market Assessment , 2011
- Planning Policy for Traveller Sites, CLG, 2012

10 Protecting and enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality places

- 10.1.1 Much of Barnet's character is derived from those areas that are already protected by planning policy – Conservation Areas, Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land, Sites of Nature Conservation Importance, Historic Parks and Gardens. Our 16 conservation areas include Hampstead Garden Suburb and some other small enclaves of classic suburbs, and attractive former villages such as Mill Hill, Monken Hadley and Totteridge.
- 10.1.2 Hampstead Garden Suburb is internationally recognised as one of the finest examples of early twentieth century domestic architecture and town planning. It is unique among the Conservation Areas in Barnet in that the Suburb is protected both by the council's statutory powers and by the Hampstead Garden Suburb Trust which has separate legal powers to 'maintain and preserve the present character and amenities of Hampstead Garden Suburb'.
- 10.1.3 Conservation areas were introduced in 1967 through the Civic Amenities Act. They are defined as 'areas of special architectural or historic interest,' the character and appearance of which should be preserved or enhanced. It is the quality and interest of an area, rather than that of individual buildings, which is the prime consideration in identifying a potential conservation area. Outside of these designations and the major housing growth areas identified in the Key Diagram (at Map 2) are other areas of high quality residential stock that remain unprotected and at risk from unmanaged growth. Most of Barnet's suburbs although they contribute to the distinctiveness of the Borough do not merit designation as conservation areas which benefit from statutory protection.
- 10.1.4 Barnet contains a variety of density levels, buildings and townscape typologies which reflect its historical development. The borough is predominantly suburban in character and is mainly made up from detached, semi-detached and terraced housing. Most of Barnet's town centres have evolved from villages and have historically grown as a consequence of the topography of Barnet.
- 10.1.5 Most residential streets in Barnet, including Victorian and Edwardian terraces and interwar suburbs, follow a conventional perimeter block structure which comprises houses facing onto the street with private enclosed gardens behind. This structure is a proven model of urban development and a fundamental element of good design. Infill development and flatted schemes in particular can weaken this relationship between building and street.
- 10.1.6 For Barnet to grow successfully it is imperative that safeguards are in place to protect and enhance the suburban quality of the borough. There is a need to identify the physical elements within the built environment that give Barnet its character and highlight those areas of the borough that may require further protection from development.

10.2 Barnet's suburban character

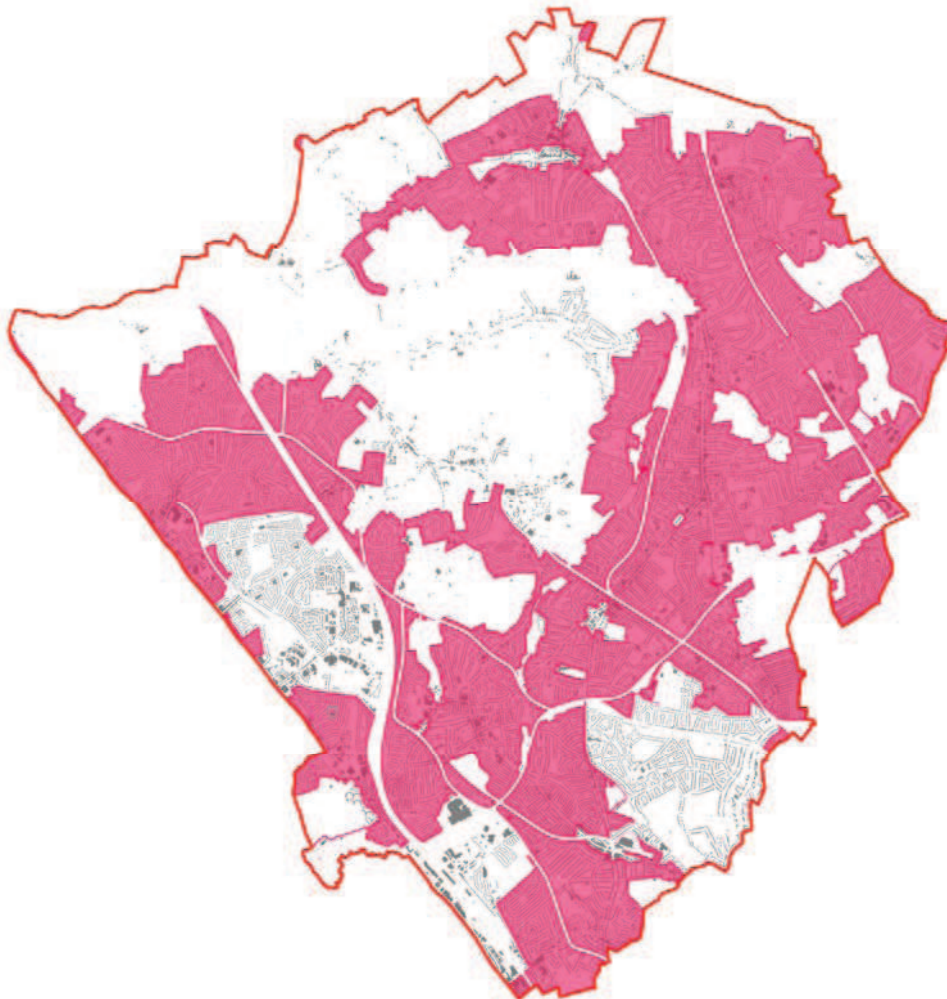
- 10.2.1 We commissioned the Barnet Characterisation Study to identify those areas of the borough that can accommodate growth and those that should be safeguarded. In examining the built environment we are able to highlight the uniformity of suburban streets and the contribution of suburban detached, semi-detached and terraced houses to local character. The Study identified primary and secondary typologies which underline the special local distinctiveness of places that are worthy of protection from development.
- 10.2.2 The Barnet Characterisation Study excluded major growth areas, Green Belt and conservation areas as shown by Map 6. It then, on the basis of its scale and grain, land use and network characteristics ie the arrangement of roads and footways and their relationship with surrounding buildings, broke down the remaining urban area of Barnet into five different primary typologies. These are:

- box development – large single buildings typically coarse grained and without an overarching urban structure. Often surrounded in car parking e.g. out of town retail such as Friern Bridge Retail Park
- campus development – large buildings set in landscaped open space e.g. Middlesex University at Hendon
- cores and town centres – medium-to-large buildings arranged along streets forming strong terraces and coherent forms e.g. Chipping Barnet
- residential estates – variable building scales set in landscape often accessed by footways rather than streets e.g. Sweets Way in Whetstone
- residential streets – small to medium buildings in regular plots arranged in a permeable street grid structure e.g. Brunswick Avenue in Brunswick Park

10.2.3 The Study focused on the residential streets of the borough. These streets were characterised by houses facing onto a street, where pedestrian movement and vehicular movement are integrated. Residential streets were assessed in the Study in terms of:

- density
- building types and units
- enclosure, street width, setbacks and building height
- architectural treatment / style / period
- landscape character / streetscape and topography

Map 6 – Barnet Urban Area outside of Regeneration and Development Areas, Conservation Areas and Green Belt



10.2.4 On the basis of this assessment six secondary typologies were identified:

- **linear rural** – the product of sporadic, piecemeal growth along country lanes or tracks which are often later widened or straightened to take more traffic yet retain their informal character – example - Barnet Road which meanders from Whalebone Park to Barnet Gate, EN 5
- **suburban periphery** - possess a very wide street profile and a leafy and exclusive character. Detached houses are set well back from the highway with substantial mature front gardens. Car parking is integrated into front gardens or private garages. Predominantly in the east of the Borough – example – Oakleigh Avenue, N20
- **suburban** – product of the interwar period, the time of Barnet’s fastest growth and the period which most strongly typifies the borough. The prevailing suburban model was detached or semi-detached. After 1930 more houses were built with garages and driveways. Distributed throughout Barnet – example – Broadfields Avenue, HA 8
- **suburban terrace** – product of a range of architectural styles, including Victorian and Edwardian, as well as inter-war when most were built. Retains strong sense of cohesion and consistency. A smaller variant of speculative semi-detached housing which is a product of municipal or tied housing development. Largely inspired by arts and crafts movement – Distributed in southern and eastern halves of Barnet - example – Berkley Crescent, EN 4
- **urban terrace** – focused mainly in south and east of borough and close to overground rail stations and largely Victorian and Edwardian in origin – example – The Drive, NW 11
- **flats** – purpose built and generally bulkier, typically replacing one or more Victorian / Edwardian period houses within existing street frontages. Distributed along main thoroughfares including A5 and A1000 – example – Lyonsdown Road, EN 5

10.2.5 In order to protect and enhance Barnet’s distinctive character the Development Management Policies DPD provides policy to clarify the key considerations that new design should adhere to. This policy framework for our residential suburbs is supported by our Residential Design Guidance SPD²³ which within the context of the six secondary typologies identified in the Characterisation Study provides design guidelines for those places with a consistent and coherent architectural character and design guidance for places where further flatted development will not detract from prevailing character.

10.2.6 The Core Strategy aims to address strategic needs for family accommodation. The main source of supply to meet demand is largely provided by our suburban housing stock. We therefore need to protect such housing within established residential streets which, because of their rhythm and cohesiveness, contribute to local character.

10.3 Barnet’s landscape character

10.3.1 The rolling landscape and valleys and ridgelines as shown on Map 7 have had a key role in defining the character of Barnet. Natural England in their *London Regional Landscape Framework* identified two landscape character types in Barnet

- Barnet Plateau which has the key natural characteristic of providing long views from remnant heathy commons forms part of a plateau of higher land on the north-west rim of the London Basin. The area extends eastwards to the Dollis Brook through East Barnet, southwards as far as the Welsh Harp Reservoir. High Barnet at 134 metres above sea level is one of the highest points of the Barnet Plateau which retains a field and farmland character to its natural spaces; pockets of traditional countryside remain within the urban fabric of London. Ancient woodland has been retained, as well as remnant heathland communities, and there are spectacular views from many high points along the plateau. Nature reserves and public paths (including the London Loop and Dollis Valley Green Walk) already take advantage of these elevated sites, but

²³ See timetable for production in LDS

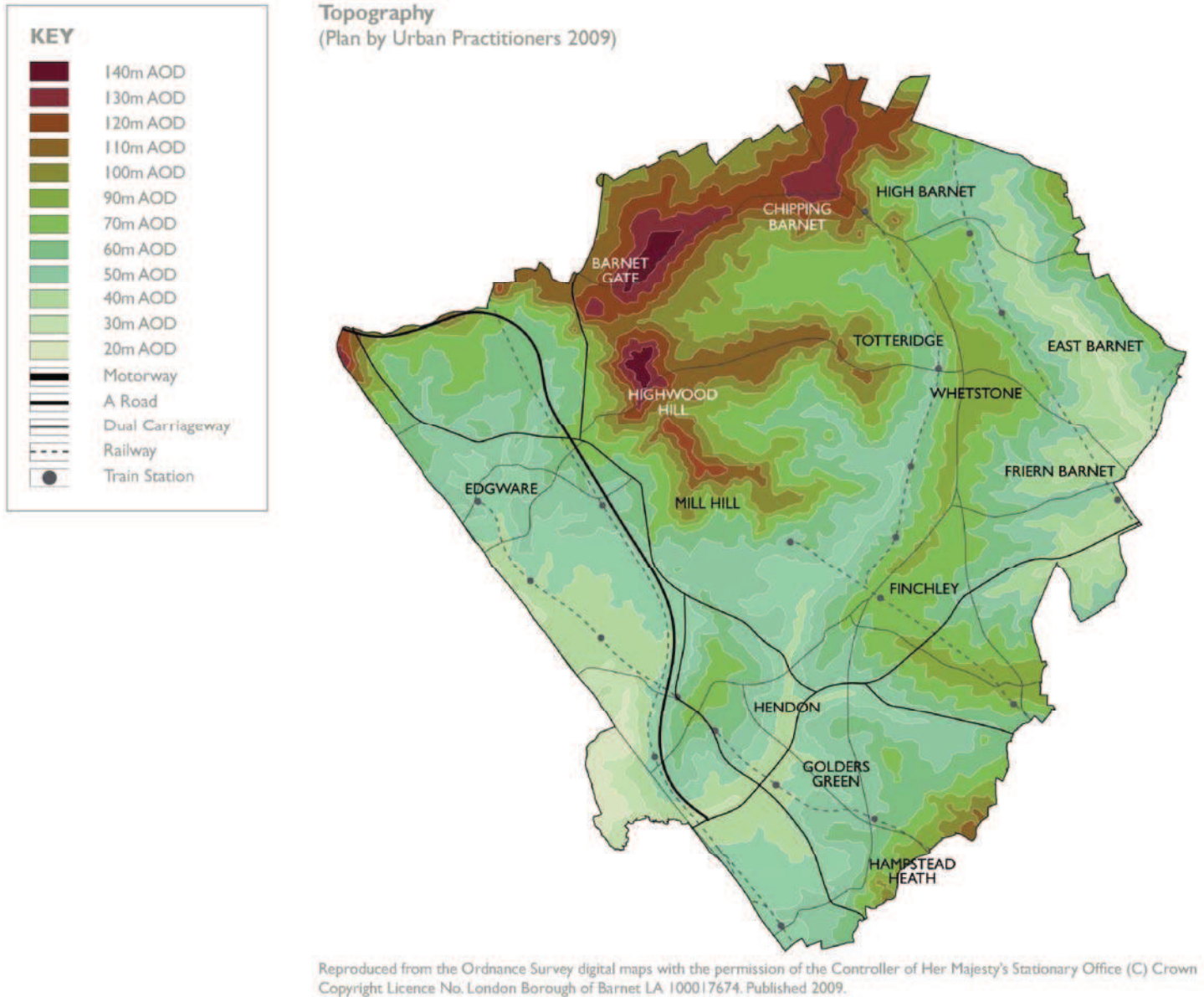
much is also to be seen from the major routes into London from the major roads (A5, M1) and railway lines running across the Barnet Plateau into the city centre. The Dollis Brook, Silk Stream and River Brent form part of a wide network of streams and ponds throughout the area.

- Finchley Ridge which has the key natural characteristic of ridgetop blocks of ancient woodland on former common land extends north-west across from Finchley to East Barnet. The hills and ridges (including Oakleigh Park which is 94 metres above sea level) are separated by streams flowing south to the Brent River (Dollis Brook and Silk Stream) and east to the River Lea (Pymme's Brook and Salmon Brook). Hendon, Finchley, Friern Barnet and East Barnet extend along the valley sides and across ridgetops, with linear open space corridors along some of the streams and railway tracks and larger open spaces (amenity grass and trees), golf courses and cemeteries on the valley sides. There are also some small but prominent blocks of woodland (e.g. Coppett's Wood).

10.3.2 There is a need to reconnect the natural and built environments through the development of green infrastructure which ensures multifunctional greenspaces that benefit communities and biodiversity as well as mitigating climate change. Our approach to developing green infrastructure is set out in Policy CS7. The development of Barnet's Green Grid is based on the identification of these two distinctive landscape types and our Green Infrastructure SPD²⁴ aims to enhance the key characteristics of Ridge and Plateau and help to protect local views and landscapes.

²⁴ See timetable for production in LDS

Map 7 – Barnet’s Topography



10.4 Barnet’s heritage

- 10.4.1 Barnet has a broad range of heritage assets including Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens, Locally Listed Buildings, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, a Historic Battlefield site and Local Areas of Archaeological Significance. Heritage assets can be used to ensure continued sustainability of an area and promote a sense of place.
- 10.4.2 We will conserve the historic significance of heritage assets and their settings. Such assets are designated because of their special architectural or historic interest and their character or appearance.
- 10.4.3 Barnet’s Conservation Areas are of varying size and character, ranging from the large garden suburb estates at Hampstead Garden Suburb to historic settlements at Monken Hadley, Mill Hill and Totteridge, a small 19th Century model farm (College Farm, Finchley) and workers cottages at the Railway Terraces in Cricklewood. Our Conservation Areas are shown on the Proposals Map.

- 10.4.4 We also need to protect and enhance our other heritage assets. Barnet has a rich archaeological and architectural heritage which includes the only Historic Battlefield (Battle of Barnet – 1471) in London. Nearly forty sites of archaeological importance containing prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains have been identified across the borough. In terms of buildings of historic and architectural importance in Barnet there are over 2,200 Listed Buildings and 1,600 buildings on the Local List. In addition there are two Scheduled Ancient Monuments at Brockley Hill in Edgware and Manor House in Finchley, three registered Historic Parks and Gardens at St Marylebone Cemetery, Avenue House Garden and Golders Green Crematorium. We will consult with English Heritage over proposals affecting these parks and gardens and on all heritage assets where appropriate. In assessing proposals affecting heritage assets we will use guidance on Understanding Place and Building in Context produced by English Heritage
- 10.4.5 The NPPF (para 126) supports a positive, proactive strategy for the conservation of the historic environment. We can demonstrate that through our rolling programme of Conservation Area Character Appraisals (CACA) that provide further guidance on the characteristics of these areas. The Appraisals detail how the gradual erosion of traditional features, materials and details undermines character and set out actions to halt and reverse this trend. This can include a review of boundaries. We expect to have complete coverage of CACAs by 2013 and our aim is that no Appraisal is more than five years old.
- 10.4.6 We will also continue to review our Local List (established 1986) which identifies buildings of local importance. We will aim to ensure that the special character and historic significance of such buildings is protected and enhanced. We will develop a mechanism that will enable community engagement on the Local List and for suggestions to come forward for additional buildings that make a contribution to Barnet's historic character.
- 10.4.7 An important element of the production of Barnet's Characterisation Study was the involvement of local amenity societies and community groups whose local knowledge helped shape the Study. As part of the engagement suggestions were welcomed on examples of buildings or streets that were strongly liked or disliked. These examples further informed the Study.
- 10.4.8 We will continue to broaden our knowledge of Barnet's heritage using new and accessible sources of information such as the London Inventory of Historic Green Spaces which lists over 100 largely formal green spaces of historic significance in Barnet including public parks, churchyards and cemeteries.
- 10.4.9 Barnet's archaeological heritage is a valuable education and community resource. As Barnet changes it is important that development proposals in areas of archaeological significance help broaden our knowledge of the past as a result of properly conducted on-site investigations. Further details on our approach to protecting our archaeological heritage is set out in Policy DM06 – Barnet's Heritage and Conservation.

10.5 High quality places

- 10.5.1 As well as preserving heritage we should also enhance it by creating buildings of equally high quality. High quality design creates places that are welcoming, make people feel safe and are enjoyable and easy to use.
- 10.5.2 New development should improve the quality of buildings, landscaping and the street environment and, through this improve the experience of Barnet for residents, workers and visitors. We will therefore insist on high quality design throughout the borough.
- 10.5.3 The NPPF (para 57) states that it is important to plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development. We will therefore not accept design that is considered inappropriate to its context or which fails to take opportunities to improve the character and quality of an area and the way it functions.
- 10.5.4 The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) as part of the Design Council advises on well-designed buildings, places and spaces. When assessing urban design we will take into account the general principles set out in *By Design. Urban design*

in the planning system towards better practice, produced by CABE, as well as other current design advice by relevant bodies.

- 10.5.5 The following overarching principles outlined in *By Design* to promote and assess successful new development inform the Development Management Policies DPD and our Residential Design Guidance SPD and suite of Design Guidance Notes. The core design principles are :
- **Character:** to promote a sense of place by responding to locally distinctive characteristics and patterns of development
 - **Continuity and enclosure:** to promote places where public and private spaces are clearly defined and building frontages positively contribute to the urban fabric
 - **Quality of the public realm:** to promote attractive, safe, inclusive public spaces and routes
 - **Ease of movement:** to create accessible and permeable places that are easy to move through
 - **Legibility:** promoting recognisable routes, landmarks and entrances
 - **Adaptability:** promoting buildings and places that can change use easily
 - **Diversity:** promoting places with variety and choice through mixes of uses and building types
- 10.5.6 Good design should reflect the diversity of people who use it and not impose barriers of any kind. With a changing population we will ensure the built environment is designed and managed in line with the key principles of inclusive design as set out in the CABE publication *Principles of Inclusive Design (They Include You)*. These principles are :
- Place people at the heart of the design process : create spaces and buildings that people can use to form strong, vibrant and sustainable communities;
 - Acknowledge diversity and difference : meet as many people's needs as possible reflecting that we can all experience limited mobility;
 - Offer choice : a single design solution cannot accommodate all users but by considering diversity it can achieve superior solutions of wider benefit;
 - Provide for flexibility in use : design places to adapt to changing uses and demands;
 - Provide buildings and environments that are convenient and enjoyable to use : consider signage, lighting, visual contrast and materials.
- 10.5.7 By extending the inclusive design principles embedded in the Lifetime Homes standard (as set out at Policy CS4 – Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet) to a wider level we can create neighbourhoods that are welcoming, accessible, and inviting for everyone, regardless of age, or health, or disability. The Lifetime Neighbourhood is sustainable in terms of changing climatic conditions, but it also means that transport services, housing, public services, civic space and amenities, all make it possible for people to have a full life and take part in the life of the community around them. Supporting text for Policy CS6 – Promoting Barnet's Town Centres highlights that the availability and accessibility of local shops are an important aspect of Lifetime Neighbourhoods.
- 10.5.8 The publication of *Safer Places* in 2004 combined urban design theory and practice with crime prevention to identify seven attributes of making places safer. These are : access and movement; structure; surveillance; ownership; physical protection; activity and management and maintenance.
- 10.5.9 We also support the principles of the Police flagship initiative Secured by Design which work mutually with and support those principles identified above from *By Design*. This focuses on crime prevention at the design, layout and construction stages of development by seeking to 'design out crime' and recognises the links to creating a mixed and balanced

community as further outlined under the section on making Barnet a safer place. We will use Safer Places and Secured by Design as part of our designing out crime solutions.

- 10.5.10 Barnet also promotes the aims of *Building for Life* – the national standard for well designed homes and neighbourhoods. A Building for Life assessor can formally evaluate the quality of schemes by applying 20 criteria which consider: environment and the community; character; streets, parking and pedestrianisation; and design and construction. Major housing schemes can be assessed under this simple evidence based system both formally by accredited assessors and informally in order to evaluate emerging proposals by developers and community groups.
- 10.5.11 Good design should promote healthy lifestyles and create buildings that have minimal negative impact on the environment, during construction and beyond. The construction and use of buildings currently accounts for around half of national carbon emissions and it is therefore vital that new and redeveloped buildings are designed to have a positive impact on their environment. Our Sustainable Design and Construction SPD sets out our approach to these matters.
- 10.5.12 High quality design also takes account of its surroundings and what is distinctive and valued about the local area. Feedback from Barnet residents on our Characterisation Study told us that the borough is considered distinctive as a place because of the sum of its constituent parts clustered around a network of 20 town centres and their suburbs. Most development in Barnet involves the replacement, extension or conversion of existing buildings so taking account of context and local character is particularly important. We will therefore expect the design of new buildings and places to respond to the local area and its defining characteristics and reinforce or create local distinctiveness.

10.6 Tall buildings and Barnet's skyline

- 10.6.1 Following the Characterisation Study we commissioned a complementary piece of work on tall buildings. The Tall Buildings Study provides supplementary information on the nature of tall buildings in Barnet and their impact on their surroundings. The Study also provides advice on the issues which should be evaluated when proposals for tall buildings are considered.
- 10.6.2 The predominant character of Barnet is two or at most three storeys. As Barnet changes over the next fifteen years it is expected that there will be pressure for tall buildings (defined in Barnet as being eight storeys (equivalent to 26 metres above ground level or more) to play a part in new development. While tall buildings offer the opportunity for intensive use, their siting and design should be carefully considered in order to not detract from the nature of surrounding places and the quality of life for those living and working around them.
- 10.6.3 We need to understand the impact of existing tall buildings in order to guide decisions for the future. Our Tall Buildings Study identified 21 locations of tall buildings either as clusters or single structures as shown on Map 8. The existing buildings fall into a number of distinct groupings:
- **Historic corridors** – The two key historic routes in Barnet are the Edgware Road corridor following the route of the Roman Watling Street along the valley bottom and the A1000 Corridor – the old route of the Great North Road linking the old town centres along the ridge line. Both of these routes have been the focus for continual renewal and intensification over time and include a spread of tall buildings.
 - **Town centre clusters** – The centres at Finchley Church End, New Barnet and Edgware all feature clusters of tall buildings, helping to emphasise their importance as both service centres and also transport nodes.
 - **Residential clusters** – There are a number of residential estates which feature tall buildings, typically dating from the 1960s, including Stonegrove and Spur Road, New Brent Street, Claremont Road and Granville Road. Like many other London suburbs these towers are generally not well regarded and in many cases are the subject of

comprehensive renewal programmes. Beyond the identifiable clusters there are also a couple of incidental residential buildings on Cat Hill, and the eastern end of Friern Barnet Road.

- **Non-residential buildings** – away from the key corridors and centres there are a number of other non-residential tall buildings. These include the group of three towers at the police training centre in Hendon and the National Institute of Medical Research establishment on the Ridgeway, along with the offices of Pentland PLC on Squires Lane.

10.6.4 Barnet has a number of attractive views of skyline ridges and/or significant buildings which contribute to the quality of the townscape and the landscape. Map 8 shows the distribution of existing tall buildings (8 storeys and above) and locally important views that contribute to the character of Barnet. These views include :

- A Mill Field towards Harrow on the Hill
- B Golders Hill Park towards Harrow on the Hill
- C Hampstead Heath Extension towards Hampstead Garden Suburb
- D King George Playing Fields, Hadley Green towards Central London and Canary Wharf

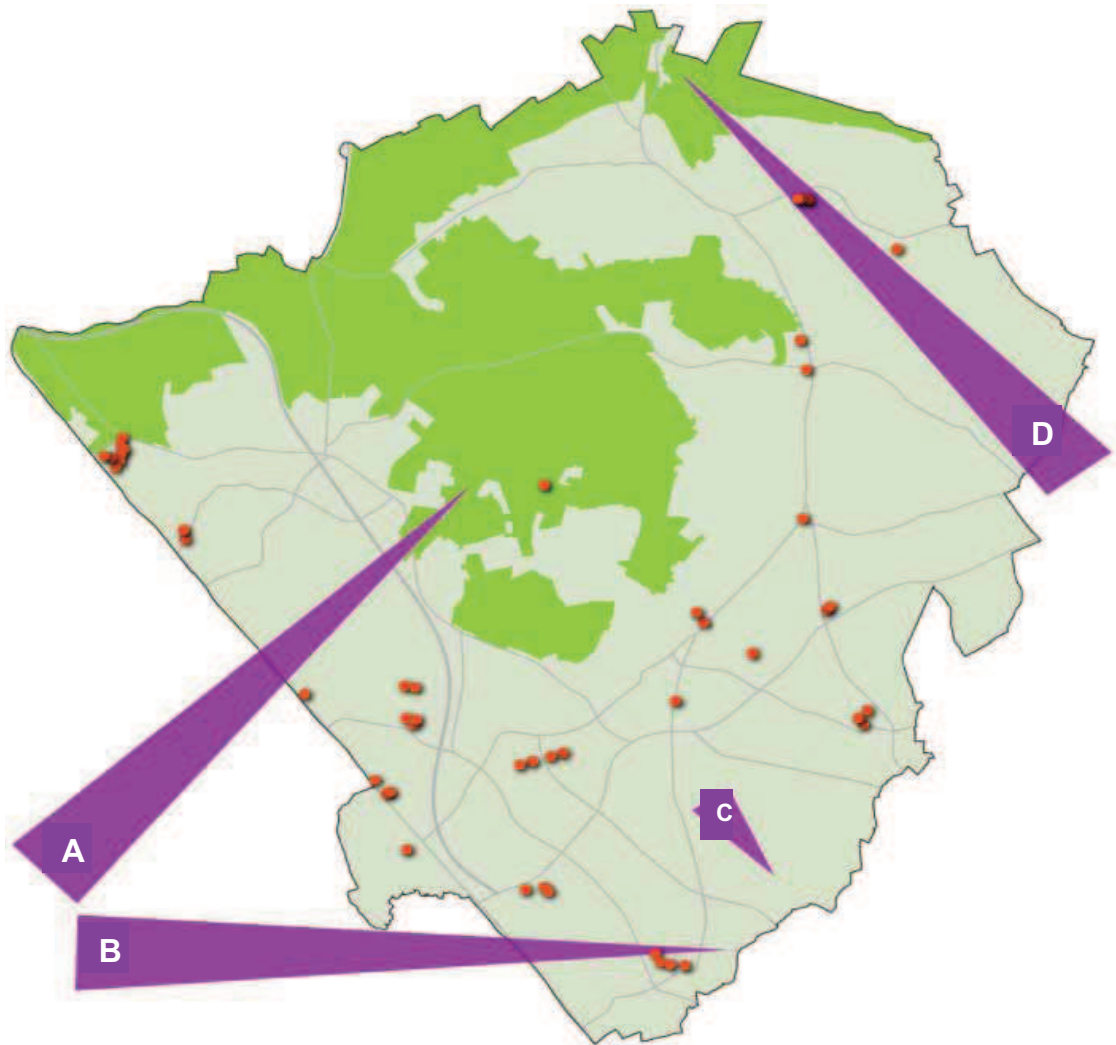
10.6.5 We will seek to ensure that development is compatible with such views in terms of setting, scale and massing and will resist proposals that we consider would cause harm to them. Development will not be acceptable if it obstructs important local views or skylines.

10.6.6 The Edgware Road corridor forms an important part of Barnet's consolidated growth in the next 15 years. As it lies in a valley floor taller buildings along this route are less likely to have a significant impact on key views from elevated vantage points. Locations along this corridor where tall buildings may be appropriate include :

Brent Cross – Cricklewood – The majority of the approved scheme will involve tall buildings. Tall buildings outside the planning permission area but within the Brent Cross Regeneration Area will be expected to comply with the Brent Cross - Cricklewood Development Framework. Parameter Pan 007 sets out the maximum building and frontage heights permitted within the application area. The Brent Cross Cricklewood masterplan maximises the use of the site in accordance with the London Plan and will result in an urban form and density that is different from the surrounding area of Barnet. This will form a new urban quarter, and although the built form is likely to be higher and denser than the surrounding area, the applicant has employed accepted urban design principles to make sure that the new area functions as a successful and integrated part of Barnet. Source – Planning application C/17559/08 approved 28/10/2010

Colindale Avenue - Tall buildings will be supported closer to the new public transport interchange and on corners which will aid legibility. Source – Colindale AAP

Edgware Road – Tall buildings as part of a mixed-use corridor with key junction improvements and new / improved public transport provision to increase travel movement Source – Colindale AAP



Map 8 – Important local views and existing tall buildings

Grahame Park Estate – Tall buildings ranging from 8 to 11 storeys will form an integral part of the regeneration of this priority housing estate which seeks a fundamental change in the environment and perceptions of Grahame Park, Barnet's largest housing estate. Further details on progress in the regeneration of Grahame Park are set out in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Regeneration of this priority housing estate was approved in January 2007. Source – Planning application W/01731JS/04 approved 17/01/2007.

Stonegrove and Spur Road Estate – Tall buildings ranging from 8 to 10 storeys have been integrated into the regeneration scheme and are positioned around the large open space at the rear of the London Academy. Further details on progress in the regeneration of Stonegrove and Spur Road are set out in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Regeneration of the priority housing estate was approved in March 2008. Source – Planning application H/03635/11 approved 07/11/2011.

West Hendon – The scheme will create a new focal point for the area around a town square which will be linked to the Welsh Harp and surrounding green space by landscape green corridors. Tall buildings ranging from 8 to 20 storeys will mark out these green corridors. Further details on progress in the regeneration of West Hendon are set out in

the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Regeneration of this priority housing estate was approved in July 2008. Source – Planning application W/13937/04 approved 01/07/2008

- 10.6.7 Town Centre Frameworks for the Priority Town Centres of Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley provide detailed planning frameworks to support the potential for future growth and to manage anticipated change. These Priority Town Centres are locations for existing tall buildings which have contributed to their visibility and importance as service centres and places with high levels of public transport accessibility. Future proposals for tall buildings subject to Policy DM 05, the London Plan and English Heritage / CABE Guidance on Tall Buildings may reinforce this visibility and importance.
- 10.6.8 Development Management Policy DM 05 – Tall Buildings sets out a criteria based approach for assessing proposals for tall buildings. Policy DM05 also considers the redevelopment and refurbishment of existing tall buildings in order to make a more positive contribution to the townscape.

10.7 Residential gardens

- 10.7.1 The NPPF sets out the definition of previously developed land and specifically excludes private residential gardens. This protection enhances the important contribution of gardens to the suburb and its quality of life. Barnet's Characterisation Study identified the severe impact of off-street car parking and consequent loss of front gardens on the dominant street typologies. These street typologies are set out at para 10.2.4.
- 10.7.2 The contribution of the development of gardens to housing supply was factored into the 2009 Londonwide Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) which formed the basis for Barnet's housing target in the London Plan. According to the SHLAA between 2004 and 2007 about 58 units per annum were completed on garden land in Barnet. Table 3 sets out the SHLAA windfall allowance for small sites, equal to 196 units per annum, which with a presumption against garden development in the London Plan includes only a very small contribution from gardens of about 5 units per annum. As gardens are no longer classified as previously developed land we do not expect them to make a contribution to housing supply in Barnet.
- 10.7.3 Permissions for the development of garden land have in the past made a contribution to meeting our housing targets. However as Barnet has clearly identified areas for targeted housing growth we will take a robust approach to proposals that involve the loss of gardens and is detrimental to the suburban character that makes Barnet a distinctive place.
- 10.7.4 We will assess proposals involving gardens according to Policy DM01 Protecting Barnet's Character and Amenity.

Policy CS 5 - Protecting and enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality places

We will ensure that development in Barnet respects local context and distinctive local character creating places and buildings of high quality design. Developments should :

- address the principles, aims and objectives set out in the following national design guidance :
By Design, Secured by Design, Safer Places, Inclusive Design, Lifetime Homes and Building for Life:
- be safe, attractive and fully accessible
- provide vibrant, attractive and accessible public spaces
- respect and enhance the distinctive natural landscapes of Barnet
- protect and enhance the gardens of residential properties
- protect important local views from places within Barnet (as set out in Map 8)

- enhance the borough's high quality suburbs and historic areas through the provision of buildings of the highest quality that are sustainable and adaptable

All development should maximise the opportunity for community diversity, inclusion and cohesion and should contribute to people's sense of place, safety and security.

Heritage and Character

We will work with partners to proactively protect and enhance Barnet's heritage including conservation areas, listed buildings, locally listed buildings, registered parks and gardens; scheduled monuments, areas of archaeological significance and London's only battlefield site.

We will require proposals within or affecting the setting of heritage assets to provide a site assessment which demonstrates how the proposal will respect and enhance the asset. Policy CS 13 addresses the adaptation of heritage assets to reduce carbon emissions and ensure efficient use of natural resources.

We will ensure through our programme of Conservation Area Character Appraisals that these areas are protected and enhanced.

We will ensure through our Green Infrastructure SPD that the key characteristics of Barnet's landscape (Barnet Plateau and Finchley Ridge) are protected and enhanced

We will encourage community involvement in the review of the Local List of important local buildings

The Barnet Characterisation Study forms the baseline for the identification of places with a consistent and coherent architectural character. Within the typologies identified in the Characterisation Study we will through our Development Management Policies DPD and Residential Design Guidance SPD develop a framework to protect and enhance those high quality suburbs in Barnet not protected by Conservation Area designations.

Tall Buildings

Tall buildings (8 storeys (or 26 metres) or more) may be appropriate in the following strategic locations:

Brent Cross – Cricklewood Regeneration Area

Colindale – Colindale Avenue Corridor of Change, Edgware Road Corridor of Change (in accordance with Policy 5.3 Building Heights in the Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010)

Grahame Park Estate

Stonegrove and Spur Road Estate

West Hendon Estate

And the Priority Town Centres of

Edgware

Finchley Church End and

North Finchley

- Proposals for tall buildings will be considered in accordance with DM 05 – Tall Buildings, London Plan Policy 7.7 – Location and Design of Tall and Large Buildings and Guidance on Tall Buildings (2007) by English Heritage and CABE
- Outside of these specific locations, proposals for tall buildings will not be supported

Key References

- Barnet Characterisation Study, 2010
- Barnet Tall Buildings Study, 2010
- Brent Cross Cricklewood Parameter Plan
- Building for Life
<http://www.buildingforlife.org/home>
- Building in Context, English Heritage, 2007
- By Design : Urban Design in the Planning System, CABI, 2000
- Colindale Area Action Plan 2010
- English Heritage Interactive Website
<http://www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk/live/>
- Guidance on Tall Buildings - English Heritage and CABI, 2007
- Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide – English Heritage, 2010
- Lifetime Homes – Lifetime Neighbourhoods – National Strategy for Housing in an Ageing Society, CLG, 2008
- London Parks and Gardens Trust – Inventory of Historic Green Spaces
<http://www.londongardenstrust.org/index.htm?home.htm>
- London Plan, 2011
- London Regional Landscape Framework, Natural England, 2010
- London Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, 2009
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Principles of Inclusive Design (They Include You) – CABI, 2006
- Safer Places – The Planning System and Crime Prevention, CLG, 2004
- Schedule of Buildings of Local Architectural and Historic Interest, LB Barnet
- Secured by Design
<http://www.securedbydesign.com/>
- Sustainable Design and Construction, SPD
- Understanding Place, English Heritage, 2010

11 Vibrant suburban town centres

- 11.1.1 Our suburban town centres are the economic, civic, retail, leisure and transport hubs of Barnet and a good indicator of the economic, environmental and social health of the borough. The network of 20 town centres in Barnet plus Brent Cross contributes significantly to the economic prosperity of Outer London as a whole. Each centre has a special character that contributes to Barnet's distinctiveness and nearly every resident lives within half a mile of a town centre.
- 11.1.2 In the London Plan the Mayor has highlighted London's town centres as a strategic focus for commercial development outside central London and for intensification including through residential development. Town centre policy in London should ensure that the evolution of town centres provides improving, convenient and sustainable access to the widest range of competitively priced goods and services. The Mayor considers that town centres have a role in accommodating long term growth pressures and meeting local retail, employment, leisure and civic needs and highlights their contribution to a sense of place and local identity.
- 11.1.3 Having a variety of town centres with different functions provides diversity and choice for people living and working in the borough and also attracts people from elsewhere. Jobs in retail and other services make up more than half of all jobs in the borough.

11.2 Planning for sustainable economic growth

- 11.2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework sets out national objectives for creating prosperous economies, and in particular to promote the vitality and viability of town centres as important places for local communities
- 11.2.2 In order to achieve this :
- New economic growth and development of town centre uses should be focused on existing centres, offering a range of services to communities in an attractive and safe environment, remedying deficiencies in provision in places with poor access to facilities.
 - Ensure competition between retailers and enhanced consumer choice through innovative and efficient shopping, leisure, tourism and local services in town centres
 - Conserve, and where appropriate, enhance the heritage of centres in order to provide a sense of place and focus for the community and for civic activity.
- 11.2.3 National guidance defines the main town centre uses. This definition includes retail development, leisure, entertainment facilities such as cinemas, restaurants, pubs, offices and theatres, museums and hotels.
- 11.2.4 Development proposals for main town centre uses in edge of centre or out of centre locations need to demonstrate that the proposal site has been identified through a sequential approach in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (para 24).

11.3 Barnet's distinctive town centres

- 11.3.1 Barnet has a complex pattern of town centres with a hierarchy comprised of Edgware, a major centre, along with 14 district centres, 5 local centres and 10 neighbourhood centres. Map 9 shows the distribution of Barnet's major, district and local town centres. The borough has the most district town centres in London.
- 11.3.2 Our town centres reflect Barnet's heritage. Many of the town centres have originated from historic centres, and typically contain some of the oldest parts of the urban fabric in Barnet. Parts of the district centres of Burnt Oak, Chipping Barnet, Finchley Church End, Golders Green and Temple Fortune all form part of a conservation area. Barnet's Characterisation Study highlighted town centres as a primary character typology having a fine urban grain with buildings organised facing onto the streets. Later twentieth century

centres such as Hendon tend to have a larger and more regular form, but are still orientated around key routes and public spaces. It is therefore important that the historic environment of town centres is protected and enhanced.

11.3.3 Table 4 sets out the position of town centres in the London Plan hierarchy. In December 2007 we produced a review 'Creating Vibrant Suburban Town Centres in Barnet' which assessed the performance of town centres. The review highlighted that:

- 95% of residents do their main shopping in Barnet's town centres
- three quarters of residents visit town centres in Barnet up to four times a week
- two thirds of residents use Barnet's town centres for evening leisure activities
- Barnet's town centres are accessible – walking is the second most popular mode of access and those who walk to town centres spend more money there

11.3.4 The review highlighted what could improve the town centres including more retail provision, more affordable car parking, better public realm and less anti social behaviour. It found that in our priority centres:

- Chipping Barnet is considered to have problems with car parking and negative perceptions on safety
- Edgware is considered to have poor public realm
- Finchley Church End is considered to be a popular place for food shopping
- North Finchley is the second most visited town centre in the borough after Brent Cross and has the second highest financial turnover of town centres

In our other district town centres:

- Whetstone is considered a clean, safe and pleasant place to shop
- Golders Green and Whetstone have changed their functions from providing a range of comparison and convenience goods to become more dependent on leisure services and evening economy roles, (i.e. restaurants, cafes, bars and clubs)
- East Finchley has limited capacity for major commercial growth but retains a 'village' feel

In our local town centres:

- East Barnet retains a 'village' feel

11.3.5 In order to provide an overview of the health of the town centre network and to consider the capacity for future retail development in Barnet a Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment (TCFNA) was conducted in 2008/09. The 2008/09 Needs Assessment concluded that:

- Brent Cross and Edgware, the borough's two largest centres are generally performing well and in line with their respective positions in the retail hierarchy
- North Finchley, Chipping Barnet, East Finchley, Golders Green, Mill Hill, Temple Fortune and Whetstone district centres are vital and viable and performing their role in the town centre hierarchy well
- Brent Street, Burnt Oak, Cricklewood, Colindale - The Hyde, Finchley Church End and Hendon Central district centres are not as healthy as some of the other centres in the hierarchy with a lower quality retail offer, fewer multiple retailers and more limited comparison goods provision
- New Barnet is the only district centre which has less than average provision in all retail categories and a number of vacant units contributing to an above average vacancy rate
- the five local centres in the borough - East Barnet, West Hendon, Friern Barnet, Childs Hill and Market Place - are more comparable in terms of their overall scale and offer which is largely service-orientated. West Hendon appears most dilapidated, deprived

and in need of enhancement, something the report recognises Barnet is seeking to address through its regeneration programme

- the ten neighbourhood centres are also broadly inline with their status at the base of the retail hierarchy

11.3.6 The TCFNA compared the main centres in Barnet, specifically Brent Cross, Edgware and North Finchley with other centres in the sub region. The aim of this exercise was to understand where Barnet's residents were spending their money. It found that Brent Cross attracted the highest number of shoppers from Barnet, with approximately £570m of comparison goods expenditure, equating to 26.6% of the total available from within the survey area. This was followed by Central London (West End). Other competing centres with Brent Cross, Edgware and North Finchley were Harrow, Watford, Enfield, Wood Green and Borehamwood; although North Finchley attracted the third highest number of shoppers from the survey area. The survey took place before Westfield Shopping Centre in West London opened in October 2008.

11.3.7 In 2010 we updated retail capacity projections in order to take into account new planning commitments granted consent since the 2009 TCFNA, the economic downturn and to help consider investor interest in retail development in Barnet. The update sets out :

- the total available pot of convenience and comparison goods expenditure;
- identifies claims on this expenditure (in terms of existing retail space in Barnet);
- ability to increase sales efficiency;
- retail planning commitments not yet implemented; and
- when existing claims on expenditure have been deducted the amount of residual expenditure to support new retail floorspace can be highlighted.

11.3.8 The TCFNA broke the borough down into the following sub-areas

- West Edgware, Mill Hill and Burnt Oak
- North New Barnet, Chipping Barnet
- East North Finchley, Finchley Church End, East Finchley, Whetstone
- South West Hendon, Brent Cross, Cricklewood
- South East Golders Green, Temple Fortune, Brent Street

11.4 Retail need and capacity - convenience goods²⁵

11.4.1 The TCFNA highlighted good convenience store provision in Barnet. Edgware and all district centres have at least one convenience store, with the larger centres having larger stores and a greater product range. Independent retailers – butchers, bakers, greengrocers and delicatessens - are also present in district centres. There is also good convenience provision in the local and neighbourhood centres. As well as eight out of centre supermarkets in Barnet there are 54 local parades and shops in the borough. These local parades and shops supplement the retail offer in Barnet's larger town centres.

11.4.2 The 2010 Update provides an indication of residual capacity for convenience goods after taking into account existing commitments and identified developments in the pipeline up to 2026. Convenience retail floorspace at Brent Cross – Cricklewood is not expected to come forward until at least 2016 to 2021. The Update concludes that there is residual global capacity to support 2,200m² net additional convenience goods provision over and above existing commitments in planning consents, and pipeline developments. This includes development identified at Colindale and Mill Hill East as part of their adopted AAPs. The NPPF (para 23) states that it is important that needs for retail and other main town centre uses are met in full and not compromised by limited site availability. This capacity represents a global figure that could be met by several small-scale developments such as

²⁵ Convenience goods are consumer goods that are purchased on a regular basis such as food, toiletries and cleaning materials

extensions and reconfigurations to existing stores across the Borough and does not necessarily suggest capacity for a single large supermarket.

- 11.4.3 Across the borough capacity is expected to mainly come forward in the East and West. Limited net increases in convenience capacity of 7,000m² by 2021 to 2026 are forecast in the East, and of 2,500m² in the West. In the North sub-area net residual convenience capacity is not forecast to be significant assuming that pipeline development comes forward. The South West is forecast to have on the basis of existing market share an oversupply of convenience goods floorspace (net) before 2026 as a result of the creation of a new town centre at Brent Cross-Cricklewood. However the successful regeneration of Brent Cross-Cricklewood will increase market share and support the new convenience floorspace.
- 11.4.4 Identification of convenience capacity does not equate to support for new supermarket provision. Capacity should therefore be addressed incrementally. On the basis of the analysis in the TCFNA and 2010 Update there is little quantitative need to plan further significant convenience goods provision in the lifetime of the Core Strategy.

11.5 Retail need and capacity - comparison goods²⁶

- 11.5.1 The TCFNA highlighted good comparison goods provision in Brent Cross, Edgware, North Finchley, Chipping Barnet, Mill Hill, Temple Fortune and Whetstone. There is mixed performance amongst town centres and out of centre retail parks such as Staples Corner and Friern Bridge.
- 11.5.2 The 2010 Update highlighted that growth in comparison goods expenditure is much lower than previously anticipated in the TCFNA. This is largely due to the impact of the recession. Comparison retail floorspace at Brent Cross – Cricklewood is not expected to come forward until at least 2016 to 2021. The Update concludes that there is residual global capacity to support 16,800 m² net additional comparison goods provision over and above existing commitments in planning consents, and pipeline developments. This includes development identified at Colindale and Mill Hill East as part of their adopted AAPs.
- 11.5.3 Across the borough capacity is expected to mainly come forward in the East and West. Limited increases in comparison capacity of under 5,000m² (net) by 2021 to 2026 are forecast in both the East and South West sub areas, and of 6,500m² (net) in the West. In the North and South East sub-areas residual comparison capacity is not forecast to be significant.
- 11.5.4 With this level of residual capacity for comparison goods it is appropriate to plan for modest comparison goods development within Barnet including extensions to stores in town centres. Assuming continued expenditure growth there will be increased capacity for comparison goods beyond the Brent Cross Cricklewood development and this should be absorbed by development opportunities in Edgware, North Finchley and Chipping Barnet.

Table 4 - Barnet's network of town centres

Metropolitan centres are located mainly in Outer London; these centres serve wide sub regional catchment areas and offer a high level and range of comparison shopping. They typically have over 100,000 m² of retail floorspace, including multiple retailers and department stores. Metropolitan centres also have significant employment, service and leisure functions. Although **Brent Cross** has limited convenience and service provision, this will be addressed in the redevelopment of the Brent Cross Cricklewood area which will create a new town centre which will have a Metropolitan role.

Major centres are important shopping and service centres, often with a borough-wide catchment. Their attractiveness for retailing is derived from a mix of both comparison and convenience

²⁶ Comparison goods are durable goods such as clothing, household goods, furniture, DIY and electrical goods.

shopping. Some major centres, which have developed sizeable catchment areas, also have some leisure and entertainment functions. Major centres normally have over 50,000 m² of retail floorspace. **Edgware** has a wide variety of retail provision serving a major centre.

District centres have traditionally provided convenience goods and services for more local communities and are distributed across Barnet. Some district centres have developed specialist shopping functions, often as a result of their lower rents. Developing the capacity of district centres for convenience shopping is critical to ensure access to goods and services at the local level. Many of Barnet's district centres are linear in nature, and may need to be consolidated to make more efficient use of land and transport capacity.

Neighbourhood and more **Local centres** provide services for local communities and are of cumulative strategic significance. Local centres have a comparable service-orientated offer of shops. Neighbourhood centres occupy the base of the retail hierarchy and are largely service orientated with cafes, takeaways, health and beauty services, newsagents and small convenience stores. Some neighbourhood centres have developed specialist shopping functions.

11.6 Brent Cross - Cricklewood

- 11.6.1 Brent Cross is London's only regional shopping centre and Barnet's largest shopping location, but it is not yet designated as a town centre in the London Plan. A Development Framework for the area was adopted in 2005 and plans are now in place, including specific development proposals to regenerate Brent Cross - Cricklewood. Progress on these proposals is set out in Section 7 of the Core Strategy.
- 11.6.2 The Core Strategy and the saved UDP policies envisage the conversion and expansion of the existing 'out of centre' Brent Cross Shopping Centre into a mixed use town centre which will extend across the A406 North Circular Road and will be well-integrated to the rest of the Brent Cross - Cricklewood area.
- 11.6.3 The proposals comprise a net addition of 55,000 m² gross comparison retail floorspace as part of the new town centre north which is equivalent to the quantum established by the adopted UDP. Comparison floorspace will feature up to 61,545 m² of new floorspace with 6,545 m² of existing floorspace within Brent Cross Shopping Centre to be decommissioned.
- 11.6.4 The London Plan has identified Brent Cross Cricklewood as a potential Outer London Development Centre (OLDC). With its greater than sub regional reach in its retail strategic functions Brent Cross Cricklewood has the potential for strategically significant growth in retail as well as office development. An OLDC is considered a location more appropriate to accommodating the scale and nature of growth likely to come forward, to minimise need to travel and to complement existing structures.

11.7 Town centre frameworks

- 11.7.1 In order to create the right environment to enable and facilitate private sector investment and growth in Barnet's town centres we produced a Suburban Town Centre Strategy in April 2008. This focused on eight objectives:
- improve the appearance of Barnet's town centres
 - ensure effective control of parking arrangements
 - manage development opportunities and changes in planning use effectively
 - effectively regulate the street trading environment
 - maximise take up of trade waste contracts
 - improve residents' feelings of safety and security
 - improve access to information on town centres
 - ensure consistency with other corporate programmes

- 11.7.2 The TCFNA identified the capacity of Barnet's centres to accommodate new development by 2026. Key opportunities for substantial enhancement in the comparison retail offer are located within Chipping Barnet, Edgware and North Finchley. The Suburban Town Centre Strategy identified centres where more detailed planning frameworks will support the potential for future growth and manage anticipated change. These are:
- Chipping Barnet
 - Edgware
 - North Finchley
 - Finchley Church End
- 11.7.3 A number of these centres are also located at significant public transport nodes and it is vital that plans and proposals for these centres are taken forward in partnership with Transport for London.
- 11.7.4 Town Centre Frameworks aim to create the right environment for vibrant and viable town centres in Barnet. The individual Town Centre Frameworks will identify opportunities to enhance the public realm and improve accessibility for all users and will seek to support the provision of a wide range of shops and services to meet the needs of diverse local populations. All Town Centre Frameworks are subject to community engagement in order to identify the different requirements of each town centre, and the different needs and preferences of those who use them.
- 11.7.5 The Town Centre Frameworks will focus on main town centre uses – retail, leisure, entertainment (cinemas and theatres), offices, museums and hotels and :
- address the mixture of land uses, primarily for retail (at ground floor level) but also residential, leisure, employment and community uses. It will develop a strategy for the town centre, which provides a framework for making decisions on current and future proposals, in a manner that facilitates the overall improvement of the area
 - create a strategy, which promotes and maximises existing and future movement opportunities including public transport and pedestrian and cycle connections
 - encourage high quality buildings and public spaces throughout the centre to help foster local distinctiveness
 - promote a safer and more secure environment in which all sectors of the community can have a sense of ownership of and pride in the town centre
 - create a clear role for the town centre in the context of the planned growth at Brent Cross and other centres identified for change
 - identify and take account of the opportunities and constraints for sustainable development
- 11.7.6 Where opportunity sites are identified in the Frameworks development principles will be set out which will assist in guiding future development proposals for individual sites across the town centre. The Frameworks will provide the basis for managing and promoting positive change in identified town centres and will be a material consideration for planning applications in the area.
- 11.7.7 Each Framework will also include a section on Delivery and Implementation which proposes the pooling of Section 106 contributions to invest in a public realm enhancement programme with the potential to top up from other sources including via local traders and community fund raising initiatives.
- 11.7.8 In addition to the priority town centres identified above there are also accessible town centres such as Golders Green, New Barnet and Whetstone where a planned approach including planning briefs or frameworks will be appropriate for managing development opportunities.
- 11.7.9 Development opportunities have also been identified at Burnt Oak, Colindale – the Hyde and Cricklewood that will enhance the vitality and viability as well as overall attractiveness of these centres. Further opportunities for a second wave of town centre enhancement will be pursued at smaller centres that attract private sector interest or have been highlighted for priority action.

11.8 Neighbourhood centres and shopping parades

11.8.1 Suburban Barnet also contains a large number of neighbourhood centres and local parades of shops. These shops fulfil a vital need for many residents without access to a car or who are reluctant to travel to larger centres. Neighbourhood centres can provide local services in sustainable locations, particularly for lower density suburbs, such as hairdressers and cafes and these cater for different communities. These centres make a major contribution to the sustainability and cohesion of neighbourhoods.

11.9 Role and function of town centres

11.9.1 The recession has not caused the decline of town centres but exacerbated existing problems, many of which were already identified in *“Creating Vibrant Suburban Town Centres in Barnet”* in December 2007. Many high streets are “outmoded” and have been “struggling for years, lacking the investment or the vision to offer customers a compelling choice and so failing to compete with better experiences in neighbouring towns or retail parks”. Online retail has also had an impact.

11.9.2 While several national foodstore operators have returned to the high street with small convenience stores in recent years there has still been a continued polarisation towards larger town centres and the provision of larger stores in these larger centres. Where smaller centres have been unable to diversify their offer or create niche markets they have suffered.

11.9.3 We recognise that the continued vibrancy and diversity of services offered in our town centres, neighbourhood centres and local parades of shops depends on access by all who want to use them. A balance must be found that encourages people to use local businesses in preference to out-of-town retail developments and this will be reflected in the provision of parking which encourages turnover whilst retaining facilities for loading and the disabled. Careful management is also required to protect Barnet’s town centres from commuter parking by people travelling into Central London.

11.9.4 We are committed to ensuring that planning is focussed on supporting vibrant town centres through:

- Redefining the role of each town centre based on the function which will provide the most potential (e.g. thereby allowing changes of use to support this redefined role)
- The creation of larger shop units to meet demand from major retailers
- The granting of temporary permissions to reduce, in the short term, the number of vacant properties
- Developing a planned strategy for housing intensification, and social infrastructure improvement for the edges of town centres, where applicable

11.9.5 One of the key principles guiding the One Barnet Programme (see Section 2.3 for more details) is to develop a new relationship with citizens. While the council recognises its role in supporting the borough’s town centres and ensuring their continued success, a range of other stakeholders including retailers, residents and investors have a role at least as significant to play. We therefore support more active engagement, networking and self-help among key players across the town centre network.

11.9.6 A 2009 report on town centres by the London Development Agency (LDA)^{27, 28} recognises that “if long-term changes in the operation of the retail market are negatively affecting town centres, conceptualising them as primary retail driven places can impede innovative solutions, whereas other town centre functions (leisure, local services, meeting place, employment space) might offer equal or more potential”. It is also considered that as a result of retail decline, some town centres have contracted and created an opportunity for unplanned incremental development of a quality that has added little value to declining

²⁷ ‘SEVEN - Housing Intensification in seven South London town centres’

²⁸ In April 2012 the functions of the LDA transferred to the GLA

town centres. The LDA study considers that “edges of town centres would profit from more proactive planning and design strategies so that these locations are strengthened”. The decline of retail, particularly outside the core of town centres should therefore be seen as an opportunity to consider a planned strategy for housing development utilising the Town Centre Frameworks and planning briefs for managing development opportunities in other town centres.

11.10 Other town centre uses

- 11.10.1 Barnet currently has a good provision and choice of commercial leisure and tourist facilities. The market largely determines the need for additional facilities such as cinemas, bingo, bowling, health and fitness and hotels. There is scope for centres to improve their evening economy offer and provision of restaurant and public house uses within secondary frontages.
- 11.10.2 If planning policies are very restrictive with regard to allowing changes in use, for example, from retail to businesses, it can result in high vacancy rates and a decline in the vitality of the centre as workers’ and visitors’ disposable income supports town centre and retail activities. There will always be changes taking place in the network of town centres, particularly in a borough as large as Barnet with such a diversity of centres and anticipated growth. People’s habits change, businesses flourish or decline at the national, city and local level, and certain factors such as the fear of crime fluctuate.
- 11.10.3 The NPPF (para 23) recommends that town centre boundaries and primary and secondary frontages are clearly defined in the Local Plan and are supported by policies on appropriate uses in such locations. In order to maintain the vitality and viability of town centres, retail floorspace should be concentrated within the core of commercial locations and that other town centre uses such as leisure, offices and community facilities are allowed on the fringe of the core. The boundaries of Barnet’s network of town centres have been specifically defined through the Development Management Policies DPD and are shown with the primary and secondary retail frontages of major and district centres on the Proposals Map.

11.11 Evening economy

- 11.11.1 It is important that town centres in Barnet maintain and enhance their provision of pubs and restaurants and other leisure facilities in order to encourage a healthy evening economy. We do however recognise the attractions of Central London and competing centres outside Barnet. Town centres at Cricklewood and Whetstone have been identified in the London Plan as night time economy clusters of more than local significance. North Finchley is also a popular evening destination attracting the largest market share of Barnet households visiting pubs and clubs. The development of Brent Cross Cricklewood will include a range of bars, restaurants and other leisure activities which are designed to bring life to the area in the evenings. DM11 Development Principles for Barnet’s Town Centres addresses the evening economy.

11.12 Cinemas

- 11.12.1 There are four cinemas providing 21 screens within the borough. Barnet’s town centres have suffered from multiplex cinemas in out of centre locations such as Cineworld at Staples Corner and Vue at Great North Leisure Park. A cinema is proposed as part of the Brent Cross- Cricklewood proposal. Apart from this proposal cinema provision is considered adequate to meet current demand, unless the market dictates otherwise.

11.13 Health and fitness clubs

- 11.13.1 According to the TCFNA the town centres of North Finchley and Mill Hill have proved popular locations for health and fitness clubs. Such facilities form an appropriate use as part of mixed use schemes and contribute to a healthy evening economy.

11.14 Hotels

11.14.1 The NPPF identifies hotels as a main town centre use. Most of the existing hotels in Barnet are not in town centres. According to the GLA Hotel Demand Study (2006) there is a net additional rooms requirement of 500 rooms by 2026. This forecast assumed high growth rates and was produced prior to the global economy downturn. The Brent Cross Development Framework includes a mix of leisure uses including hotel and conference facilities. DM11 Development Principles for Barnet's Town Centres addresses proposals for hotel development.

11.15 Markets and affordable retail units

11.15.1 We support a dynamic, competitive and diverse retail sector which also provides for small and medium sized enterprises. Markets at Burnt Oak (Watling Market), Chipping Barnet (Barnet Market) and North Finchley (Lodge Lane Car Park) serve a multitude of roles. They have long historical associations with the development of these places as retail centres ranging from 800 years at Barnet Market to over 70 at Watling Market in Burnt Oak. They can also provide greater retail choice and affordability as well as help to meet the needs of Barnet's diverse communities.

11.15.2 The availability and accessibility of local shops are an important aspect of 'Lifetime Neighbourhoods'. It is also important that the retail sector is diverse and successful and that new independent shops are given the opportunity to establish themselves as part of the retail offer in Barnet's successful town centres. In accordance with the NPPF (paras 203 to 205) we will investigate the potential for utilising S106 contributions from major retail developments (over 2,500 m²) to ensure provision of affordable retail units. Further guidance on affordable shops is provided in our SPD on Contributions to Enterprise, Employment and Training²⁹.

Policy CS 6 – Promoting Barnet's town centres

In order to promote competitive town centre environments and provide consumer choice, we will realise development opportunities for the town centres of Edgware, North Finchley, Finchley Church End, and Chipping Barnet. We will pursue the individual planning objectives for each centre as set out in their Town Centre Frameworks and ensure the delivery of environmental, design, transport, car parking and community safety measures. Development in these town centres will reflect the preferred sequential approach in the National Planning Policy Framework (para 24).

- we will promote successful and vibrant centres throughout Barnet to serve the needs of residents, workers and visitors and ensure that new development is of an appropriate scale and character for the centre in which it is located
- we will promote the distribution of retail growth to meet the capacity for an additional 2,200 m² (net) of convenience goods floorspace across Barnet by 2021 -2026. The majority of the convenience capacity arises in the East sub-area (centred on the District Centre of North Finchley) and West sub-area (centred on the Major Centre of Edgware) beyond 2016. **We will therefore not plan further significant convenience goods provision before 2026**
- we will promote the distribution of retail growth to meet the capacity for an additional 16,800 m² (net) of comparison goods floorspace across Barnet by 2021 -2026. The majority of this capacity arises in the East, West and South West sub-areas. On basis of continued expenditure growth we will in addition support comparison goods provision in Edgware, North Finchley and Chipping Barnet
- we will ensure that food, drink, entertainment uses as part of a healthy evening economy in our town centres do not have a harmful effect on residents and the local area

²⁹ See timetable for production in LDS

- we will ensure the efficient use of land and buildings in all town centres, encouraging a mix of compatible uses including retail, managed affordable and flexible workspace, leisure and residential that add to the vibrancy of the area whilst respecting character
- we will take a planned approach to manage development opportunities in Golders Green, Whetstone and New Barnet and through our Site Allocations DPD promote development opportunities in our smaller District Centres at Burnt Oak, Colindale – the Hyde and Cricklewood that enhance the overall attractiveness of these centres.
- We will pursue further opportunities for town centre enhancement at smaller centres that attract private sector investment or have been highlighted for priority action
- we will, in order for them to compete with other centres and particularly out of centre retail parks and shops, support retail uses in town centres by improvements to the public realm, the public transport network, short-trip parking and accessibility by cyclists and pedestrians. We will promote investment in the historic environment of town centres
- we will seek to protect and enhance more 'local' neighbourhood centres and parades of shops in terms of their potential contribution to sustainable suburbs and shopping; and
- we will seek to protect existing markets as part of the retail offer of Burnt Oak, Chipping Barnet and North Finchley town centres and, where appropriate, use S106 contributions to ensure the provision of 'affordable shops' in new retail development.

Brent Cross / Cricklewood

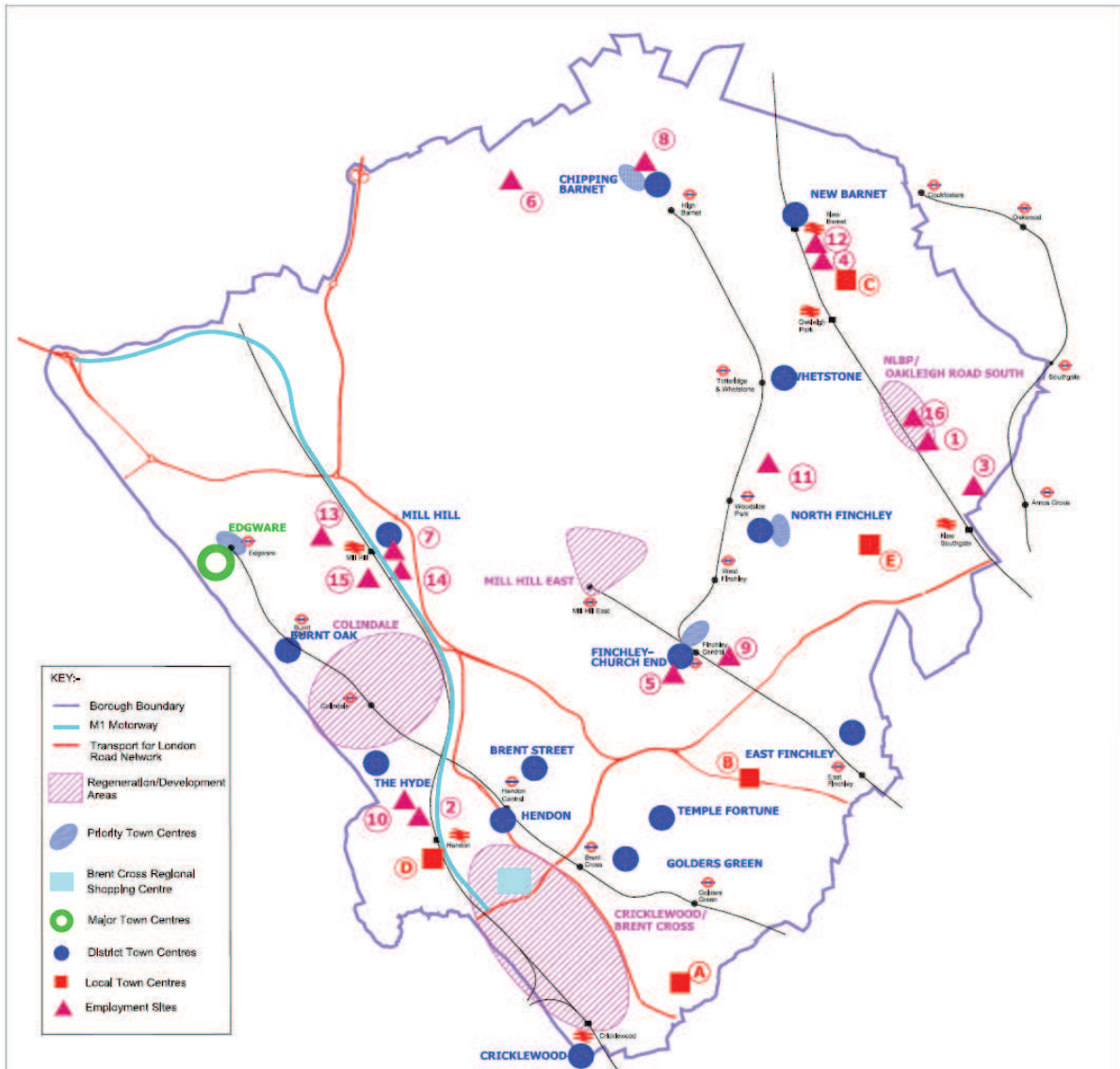
- In order to create a distinct and attractive business offer we will promote Brent Cross/Cricklewood as a new metropolitan town centre and an Outer London Development Centre through mixed use regeneration which delivers a net addition of 55,000m² of gross comparison floorspace in town centre north and 370,000 m² of office floorspace as part of a mix of uses that accords with the London Plan and the saved suite of UDP Policies on Brent Cross-Cricklewood. Brent Cross does not currently perform as wide a range of functions as a typical town centre. Any substantial future extension or redevelopment should be linked to an enhanced role for public transport to serve its catchment area and should make a positive contribution to encouraging a modal shift from car use to public transport. We will expect any substantial extension of Brent Cross and redevelopment of its immediate environs to :
 - complement the role of Brent Cross as a new metropolitan town centre and an Outer London Development Centre; and
 - to contribute to the balanced regeneration of the Brent Cross / Cricklewood Regeneration Area.

Key References

- | | |
|--|--|
| ➤ Barnet Unitary Development Plan, 2006 | ➤ Hotel Demand Study, GLA, 2006 |
| ➤ Barnet Unitary Development Plan - Secretary of State's Direction on Saved Policies, 2009 | ➤ London Plan, 2011 |
| ➤ Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005 | ➤ National Planning Policy Framework |
| ➤ Creating Vibrant Town Centres in Barnet, LB Barnet, 2007 | ➤ Suburban Town Centre Strategy, LB Barnet, 2008 |
| | ➤ Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment, 2009 |
| | ➤ Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment, Update 2010 |

Map 9 – Town centres and employment sites

Map 9. Barnet Town Centres and Employment Sites



Drawing No. 1808mapp1,23343_5-2.dwg

| Employment Sites | | Site | Name |
|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Site | Name | 12 | Red Rose Trading Centre |
| 1 | Oakleigh Road South | 13 | Grenville Place |
| 2 | Garrick Industrial Estate | 14 | Bunns Lane |
| 3 | Brunswick Industrial Park | 15 | Granard Business Centre |
| 4 | Lancaster Road Industrial Estate | 16 | North London Business Park |
| 5 | Regents Park Road | Local Town Centres | |
| 6 | Queens Road Industrial Estate | Site | Name |
| 7 | Mill Hill Industrial Estate | A | Childs Hill |
| 8 | Hadley Manor Trading Estate | B | Market Place |
| 9 | Squires Lane | C | East Barnet |
| 10 | Connaught Business Centre | D | West Hendon |
| 11 | Finchley Industrial Estate | E | Friern Barnet |

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12 Enhancing and protecting Barnet's open spaces

- 12.1.1 Barnet is one of the greenest boroughs in London with 28% of its area designated as Green Belt (2,466 ha) and 8% as Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) (690 ha). Barnet has over 200 parks and open spaces covering 848 hectares and 67 sites of nature conservation importance plus a site of special scientific interest at Welsh Harp Reservoir. There are 1192 ha of public open space in Barnet covering 14% of the borough. This includes those parts of Green Belt and MOL which are accessible to the public.
- 12.1.2 The Sustainable Community Strategy highlights the importance of Barnet's green open spaces and that we all want to live in an attractive, clean and green environment. Our open spaces and outdoor sports and recreational facilities are an important element of the borough's character and careful protection of these assets is fundamental to delivering the spatial vision. Our open spaces form an integral part to the character of 11 of Barnet's 18 Conservation Areas.
- 12.1.3 Reflecting its outer London location many parts of Barnet have relatively easy access to open countryside. However people need green spaces close to where they live and Green Infrastructure (a strategic network of green spaces) can provide for a natural and healthy environment. A network of well designed, well maintained open spaces and outdoor sports and recreational facilities is vital to Barnet's success as a place to live.
- 12.1.4 Our policy on open space seeks to ensure that the growth identified in Policy CS 3 - Distribution of Growth in Meeting Housing Aspirations will be supported by increases and improvements in open space provision including outdoor sport and recreation opportunities, and that development makes provision for biodiversity

12.2 Barnet's Green Infrastructure

- 12.2.1 In order to maximise the benefits that open spaces can deliver, it is vital that they are considered as a network.

Table 5 – Green Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure is the network of green spaces, places and features that thread through and surround urban areas and connect town to country. Barnet's Green Infrastructure includes

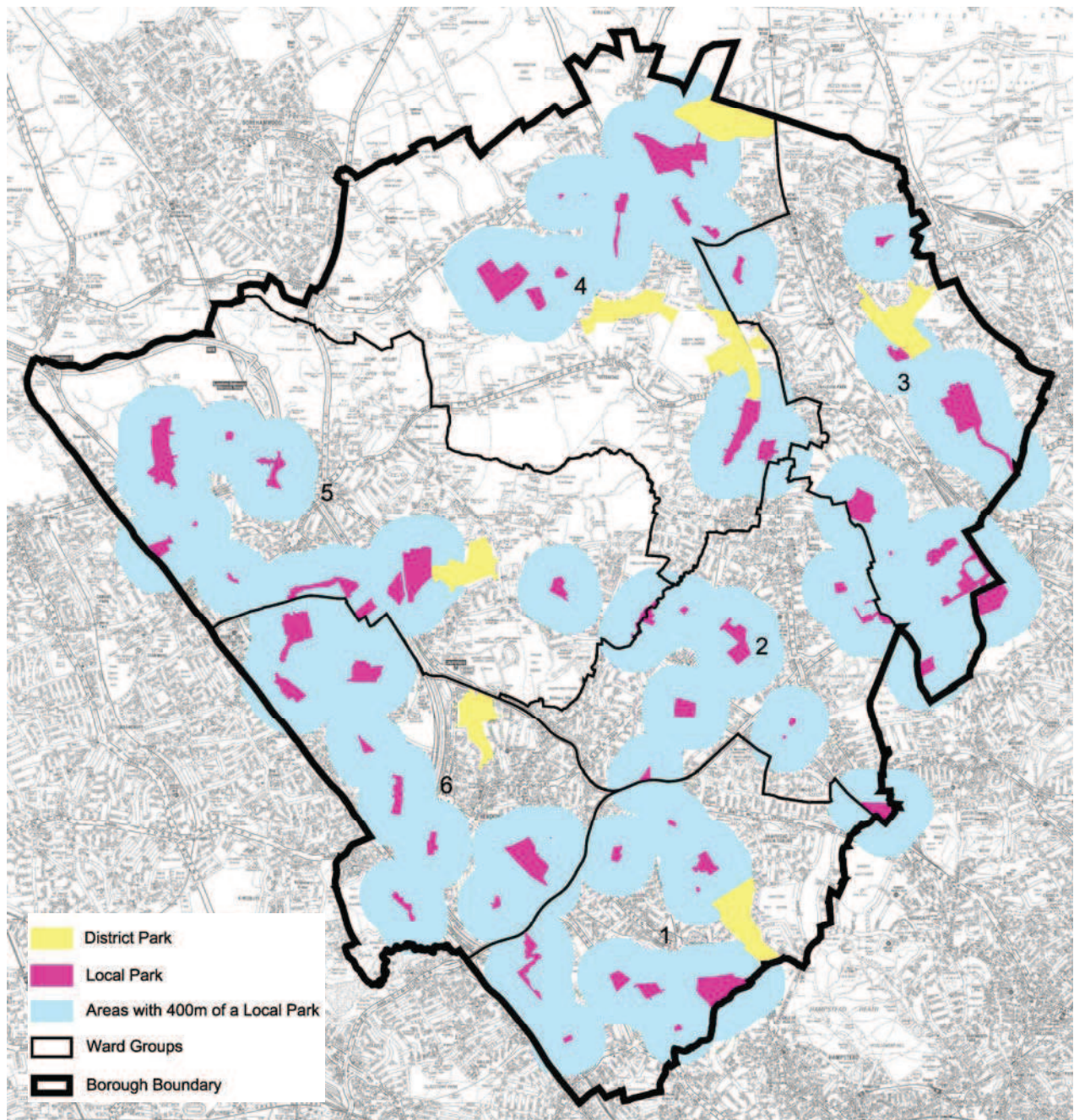
- | | |
|---|---|
| ○ Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land | ○ Children's play facilities |
| ○ Landscape | ○ Allotments, community gardens and urban farms |
| ○ Natural and semi-natural green spaces | ○ Cemeteries and churchyards |
| ○ Trees, hedgerows and green corridors | ○ Rivers, streams and open water areas |
| ○ Playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities | ○ Green roofs and walls. |
| ○ Amenity green space | |

- 12.2.2 Barnet's Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Needs Assessment provides evidence on the existing open spaces that forms part of Barnet's Green Infrastructure network and its intrinsic values. It provides a basis for improving the quality and potential uses of open spaces to cater for increasing future demand arising from growth and the changing needs of the community.
- 12.2.3 The success and value of an open space network is dependent on three principal factors: the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces. The NPPF (para 73) states that planning policies should be based on an assessment of the needs for open space, sports and recreational facilities and opportunities for new provision. Barnet's Open Space, Sports and Recreational Facilities Needs Assessment identifies quality as the overriding

factor that affects the public's satisfaction with the open space network followed by distance and the ability to access open spaces. The Assessment therefore provides an analysis of the quality and accessibility of existing open spaces and sets out a series of recommendations for improvement. In addition we also recognise that our parks serve as a vital focal point for formal and informal community activities including fairs and festivals.

- 12.2.4 Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land covers a third of the Borough and makes a major contribution to quality of life in Barnet and London's multi-functional green infrastructure. Through positive management of this resource we are keen to see improvements to its overall quality and accessibility.
- 12.2.5 On the basis of the Assessment Policy DM15 – Green Belt and Open Spaces sets out local space standards for public parks, children's play facilities, outdoor sports provision, and natural and semi-natural green space (including Metropolitan Open Land). In applying these standards it is recognised that open spaces are multi-functional and any one space may fulfil a range of purposes.
- 12.2.6 The Assessment highlights opportunities for improving the quantity and quality of open spaces in Barnet, including better linkages in order to provide a more integrated and coherent network of open space. Further guidance in ensuring improvements to the network of open spaces is provided within the SPD on Green Infrastructure.

Map 10 – Public open space deficiency



- 12.2.7 Map 10 identifies those areas of the borough that are deficient in public open space. The more rural northern half of Barnet has the largest area of public open spaces but these are the least accessible. This provides a context for levels of formal provision and does not reflect informal use of open space nor patterns of usage of Barnet's or neighbouring borough parks such as Hampstead Heath and Canons Park.
- 12.2.8 The Assessment review of areas of deficiency in public open space reflected those areas identified in Barnet's 2006 Unitary Development Plan. Areas highlighted as having a deficiency in district parks i.e. being more than 1.2 kms from such a park included North and East Finchley, Brent Cross – Cricklewood and Edgware. Areas highlighted as having

a deficiency in local parks i.e. being more than 0.4 kms from such a park included New Barnet, Oakleigh Park, Edgware, North Finchley, Mill Hill and Hendon.

12.3 Barnet's parks

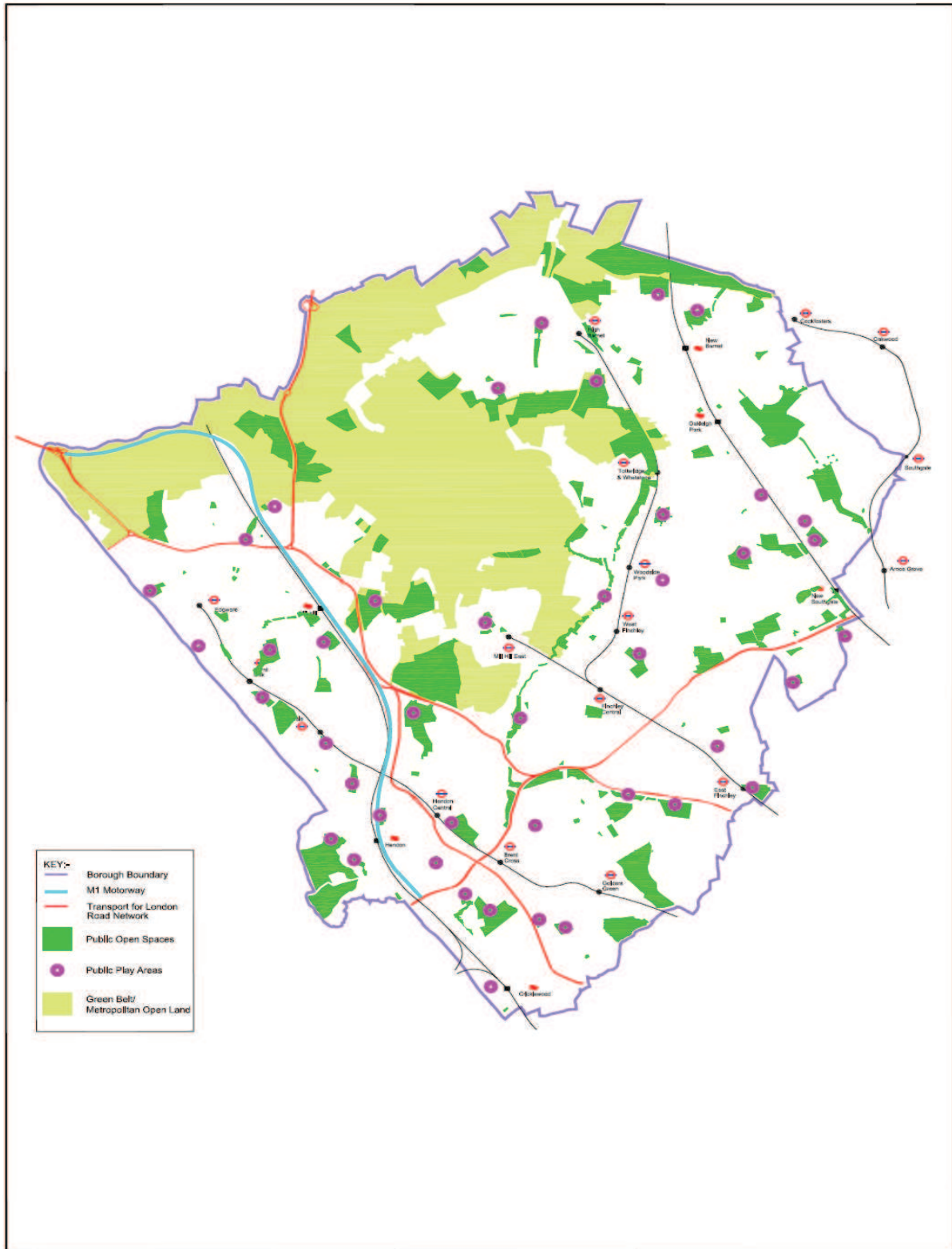
- 12.3.1 Barnet has a total of 73 public parks ranging from Hamilton Road Playground (0.04 ha) to Monken Hadley Common (41 ha). These are categorised according to the public open space hierarchy in the London Plan. A park covering 20 hectares or more is a District Park. Local Parks cover less than 20 hectares. Barnet has seven District Parks and 66 Local Parks providing a total area of 488 ha.
- 12.3.2 Over a 100 formal green spaces including public parks, cemeteries and graveyards in Barnet are considered to have historic significance and are listed by the London Parks and Gardens Trust in the London Inventory of Historic Green Spaces.
- 12.3.3 The primary green space assets in the borough are the 16 Premier Parks. With a Premier Park located within a one mile radius of almost every home in the borough these parks are managed to provide a high quality, recreational experience with an appropriate range of safe and accessible facilities to appeal to all ages (ranging from outdoor gyms at Oak Hill Park to skate parks at Friary Park). The distribution of public open space is shown in Map 11.
- 12.3.4 Barnet has 57 other public parks which are not Premier Parks. A wider green space management and improvement approach will be developed through a Parks and Open Spaces Strategy to meet increasing need and demand for quality open space.
- 12.3.5 The Assessment highlighted that although many parks are of high quality, in particular the Premier Parks, there are a number of parks where improvements could be made to improve their attractiveness. Measures to improve quality will be taken forward through our Parks and Open Spaces Strategy.
- 12.3.6 Accessibility to open space can be improved through pedestrian and cycle links as well as bus routes where practicable. The Dollis Valley Green Walk and the Capital Ring are strategic walking routes that cross Barnet. The 17 km long Dollis Valley Green Walk incorporating Brent Park, Hendon, Windsor Open Space Finchley, Riverside Walk / Gardens, North Finchley, and Brook Farm / Wyatts Farm, Whetstone provides an important green corridor for wildlife and recreational use through the heart of Barnet. Dollis Valley Green Walk has received funding from the Mayor of London's Help a London Park scheme to improve the quality and safety of London's parks. The Capital Ring is a key green route that encircles London. The routes that go through Barnet are Section 10 (South Kenton to Hendon Park) and Section 11 (Hendon Park to Highgate).
- 12.3.7 In order to tackle deficiencies and under provision of public open space and to ensure adequate new open space is provided in Barnet's growth areas we will ensure additional on-site open space or improvements to accessibility. Barnet's growth areas contain proposals to increase the supply of, as well as enhance, public open space in Barnet. The three main growth areas will create 18.5 ha of additional public open space as well as enhance provision at Bittacy Hill Park, Clitterhouse Fields, Montrose Park and Grahame Park. There are no significant opportunities for new open spaces in North and East Finchley. The priority in these areas will be to improve access to existing parks.
- 12.3.8 The concept of a regional park in North West London has been highlighted in the North West London to Luton Corridor Prospectus for Sustainable Co-ordinated Growth. The area extending from Welsh Harp along the River Brent and its tributaries (Dollis Brook and Silk Stream) together with the Dollis Valley Green Walk has been identified as having potential for designation as a regional park.

12.4 Children's play facilities

- 12.4.1 Having more high-quality and safe places to play is a priority for both children and parents, both in terms of physical health and emotional wellbeing. Higher levels of physical activity in such places provide clear health benefits. As with parks, children's play facilities are not

evenly distributed through Barnet. The distribution of play provision for children is set out in Map 11. The Assessment identified 49 sites in the borough that provide formal play space for children, this equates to 0.5m² of space per child under 15 years.

Map 11 – Barnet’s green spaces and play areas



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12.4.2 Less than half of the parks in Barnet have play provision for children. Overall 54% of Barnet’s area is not within 600m of formal equipped areas for play and a significant

increase in facilities is required as Barnet's population gets younger. The Assessment highlighted the need to improve access through public rights of way to play areas at Deansbrook Play Area, Fairway Children's Playground and Edgwarebury Park. It also identified 15 open spaces in areas with deficiency that have potential to provide play equipment

12.5 Playing pitches and outdoor sports

- 12.5.1 Barnet is relatively well provided for in terms of distribution of playing pitches with 277 pitches covering nearly 160 hectares. There is 0.51 ha of playing pitches per 1,000 residents and almost the entire borough is within 1.2km of a playing pitch. Despite good geographical coverage there is demand for additional provision because of issues related to the quality of the existing pitches (mainly due to poor drainage) and the lack of accessibility. The Assessment identified 13 sites that are not accessible in terms of walking, cycling, bus or rail. This will guide future provision and management of new sports pitches in Barnet.
- 12.5.2 The borough is considered to have a good distribution of bowling greens and tennis courts mainly within parks. Provision for basketball and netball courts is concentrated in the west of the borough around Burnt Oak. Further work is required on assessing distribution of these facilities outside of open spaces.

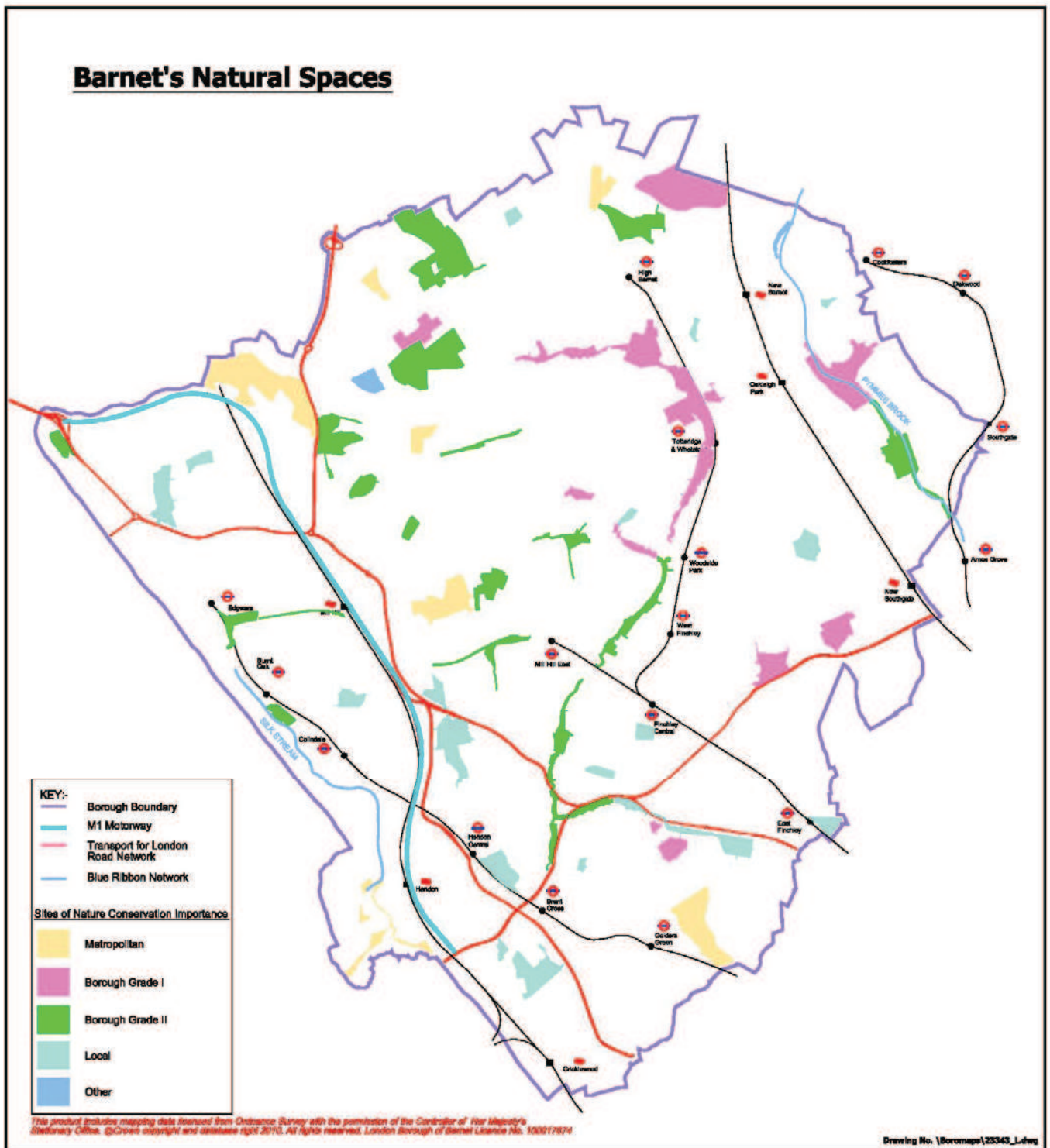
12.6 Natural and semi natural space

- 12.6.1 Barnet has a rich wildlife resource. Barnet's natural space covers rivers, open water, grassed areas, forest / woodland, natural heath, scrubland, common and wetland. The Assessment identified 743 ha of natural greenspace which has public access including 10 sites that are larger than 20 hectares. The distribution of natural space is set out in Map 12. There is 2.36 ha of publicly accessible natural greenspace per 1,000 residents and as with parks there is a significant variation in distribution between the north and south of the borough.
- 12.6.2 The borough contains one Site of Special Scientific Interest – the Welsh Harp Reservoir - into which the River Brent and Silk Stream flow. The Reservoir was created in 1835 as a water supply for the canal network and is jointly managed by Barnet and Brent Council with British Waterways. As the largest expanse of water in Barnet it provides an important recreational as well as a rich wildlife resource. Access to Welsh Harp will be improved as part of the regeneration proposals for West Hendon. A footpath including two new footbridges will be created around the Reservoir. The Reservoir together with the River Brent, Silk Stream and Pymmes Brook form part of the Blue Ribbon Network for London which has its own set of policies in the London Plan. Policies 7.24 to 7.28 in the London Plan specifically cover the Blue Ribbon Network.
- 12.6.3 In line with London Plan standards the majority of the Borough is within 1km of Metropolitan or Borough Grade Nature Conservation sites and 500m of any nature conservation site. The Assessment identified fifteen nature conservation sites that have poor accessibility in terms of walking, cycling, bus or rail and highlighted that access could be enhanced by improved signage.
- 12.6.4 Consideration should be given to the need for species to move between different types of habitats along our rivers and streams as well as green corridors. We want to maintain networks of natural habitats by avoiding their fragmentation and isolation and will seek to identify 'missing links'. We will use the Site Allocations document to identify sites where enhanced or new measures to support biodiversity and nature conservation may be supported as part of proposals. Even where no additional open space is being created we will ensure that the development is designed in a way to enable it to replace and enhance biodiversity. This could include green roofs and green facades. Our SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction sets out specific design principles in relation to biodiversity.
- 12.6.5 We will favour the provision of habitat for species identified in the London Biodiversity Action Plan.

12.7 Green infrastructure and the Green Grid

12.7.1 Our open spaces have to be multi-functional if they are going to meet the needs of our communities. Green Infrastructure can provide a range of environmental benefits including flood water storage, sustainable drainage, urban cooling and access to shady outdoor space. It also provides habitats for wildlife and through the creation and enhancement of 'green corridors' should aid the natural migration of species responding to the changing climate.

Map 12 – Barnet's natural spaces



- 12.7.2 The Green Infrastructure SPD sets out a strategic approach for the creation, protection and management of networks of green infrastructure. Infrastructure should be provided where it will reduce the impact of climate change and retain, enhance or create green corridors that enable linkages between rural, urban fringe and urban green spaces
- 12.7.3 Preparation of Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan has identified the need to look at development of an integrated borough-wide strategy for delivering green infrastructure in order to make most effective use of all potential capital and revenue funding sources available, particularly in relation to open spaces.
- 12.7.4 In the London Plan the Mayor has set out his support for an All London Green Grid and the development of an enhanced network of green spaces that can serve to shape and support sustainable communities, respond to the challenges of climate change and deliver an improved quality of life.
- 12.7.5 The Green Grid approach provides a strategic framework for creating, improving, managing and maintaining high quality Green Infrastructure. As a reflection of its topography Barnet will form part of two Green Grid networks – Lea Valley and Finchley Ridge, and Brent Valley and Barnet Plateau. We will work with neighbouring authorities to establish Area Frameworks for these Green Grid Areas. The Frameworks will facilitate planning, management and maintenance of the Green Grid and integrate it within the Local Plan highlighting and accelerating the delivery of key green infrastructure projects. The Frameworks will provide the basis for securing revenue funding to create new spaces and maintain them in perpetuity.

12.8 Trees

- 12.8.1 Trees are important for their historic and aesthetic values. They also provide habitat, shading, cooling and air filtering. With 36,000 street trees in Barnet, the second highest number in London, they make an important contribution to quality of life. The Mayor wants to utilise Borough Tree Strategies to increase tree cover in London, with 2 million additional trees by 2025.
- 12.8.2 The Watling Chase Community Forest forms part of Barnet's green infrastructure. The community forest established in 1991 covers an area of 188 km² and extends from the northern part of Barnet into south Hertfordshire. The aim of the Community Forest as set out in the Watling Chase Community Forest Plan, is to see much of the area under positive and appropriate management by 2025. This will include a substantial increase in trees and woodland achieved through management of existing woodlands and new planting.

12.9 Sustainable food production

- 12.9.1 Our agricultural land and our allotments may also have potential for sustainable food production which can contribute to our economy and healthier lifestyles as well as reduce the number of food miles between producer and consumer. Barnet provides 6% of London's farmland³⁰. The Outer London Commission highlighted that farms have the potential to play a greater role in the economy of Outer London. The Barnet Federation of Allotment and Horticultural Societies lists 46 allotment sites in Barnet providing a total of over 4,000 plots. Allotments are an important asset within Barnet, providing a wide range of benefits including protecting open space leisure and healthy exercise as well as providing healthy low cost food production for communities and the environment.
- 12.9.2 We recognise the benefits for health, community cohesiveness and our local landscape from making better use of our land for food growing. We support the Mayor's Capital Growth Initiative to create 2,012 new community food growing spaces in London by end of 2012 and are keen to promote sustainable local food production given our significant and well used allotment holdings and extensive former agricultural lands.

³⁰ The Mayor's Food Strategy, 2006

Policy CS 7 - Enhancing and Protecting Barnet's Open Spaces

In order to maximise the benefits that open spaces can deliver and create a greener Barnet we will work with our partners to improve Barnet's Green Infrastructure. We will create a greener Barnet by:

- protecting open spaces, including Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land
- enhancing open spaces, ensuring positive management of Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land to provide improvements in overall quality and accessibility
- ensuring that the character of green spaces of historic significance is protected
- meeting increased demand for access to open space and opportunities for physical activity, by tackling deficiencies and under provision through:
- securing additional on-site open space or other open space improvements in the identified growth areas including 8 ha of new provision at Brent Cross – Cricklewood, 5.5 ha of new provision at Mill Hill East and 5 ha at Colindale
- improving access to open spaces particularly in North and East Finchley and other areas of public open space deficiency identified by Map 10. We will seek to improve provision in these areas of deficiency with the objective of increasing the area of the borough that has access to district and local parks in accordance with the London Plan criteria
- securing improvements to open spaces including provision for children's play, sports facilities and better access arrangements, where opportunities arise, from all developments that create an additional demand for open space. Standards for new provision are set out in DM 15 – Green Belt and Open Spaces
- maintaining and improving the greening of the environment through the protection of incidental greenspace, trees, hedgerows and watercourses enabling green corridors to link Barnet's rural, urban fringe and urban green spaces
- protecting existing Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation and working with our partners including the London Wildlife Trust to improve protection and enhancement of biodiversity in Barnet
- ensuring that development protects existing site ecology and makes the fullest contributions to enhancing biodiversity, both through on-site measures and by contribution to local biodiversity improvements; and
- enhancing local food production through the protection of allotments and support for community food growing including the Mayor's Capital Growth Initiative

In supporting new Green Infrastructure we will:

- set out an approach to improving the network of green spaces within the Green Infrastructure SPD
- as part of the All London Green Grid work with neighbouring authorities to establish Area Frameworks as the basis for identification, creation and management of new green spaces as part of:
 - Lea Valley and Finchley Ridge Green Grid Area
 - Brent Valley and Barnet Plateau Green Grid Area

Reflect the policies and objectives in the Watling Chase Forest Plan when assessing development proposals in the area covered by the Community Forest

Key References

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy – 2010 – 2020 ➤ Barnet Unitary Development Plan, 2006 ➤ Barnet Unitary Development Plan - Secretary | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009 ➤ London Plan, 2011 ➤ London Regional Landscape Framework, 2010 |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of State's Direction on Saved Policies, 2009 ➤ Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005 ➤ Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010 ➤ Green Infrastructure Guidance, Natural England, 2009 ➤ Infrastructure Delivery Plan ➤ London Biodiversity Action Plan, London Biodiversity Partnership, 2007 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009 ➤ National Planning Policy Framework ➤ Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Assessment, 2009 ➤ Sustainable Design and Construction, SPD ➤ Towards a Level Playing Field, Sport England, 2006 ➤ Watling Chase Community Forest Plan, Hertfordshire County Council, 2001 |
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13 Promoting a strong and prosperous Barnet

13.1 Business opportunities and economic prosperity

- 13.1.1 Knowledge and learning are central to economic growth and competitiveness. Barnet's residents are highly qualified with close to 40% of those of working age being qualified to NVQ4+. These high qualification levels are reflected in the residents' occupational profile, with the vast majority of Barnet's residents working in Managerial and Professional occupations – the knowledge economy³¹. Currently our highly qualified residents commute out of Barnet to access job opportunities in the West End and the City and the wider London region. Increased opportunities for home-working and improved access to local business support services will reduce the need to travel.
- 13.1.2 Barnet's future economic growth is projected to be increasingly in service-orientated employment and high level knowledge-based jobs with growing numbers of higher skilled workers in financial, retail, business and professional services. The availability of commercial land and buildings together with investment in transport and housing which allows workers, suppliers and customers to access and be accessed by Barnet's businesses is crucial to economic growth.
- 13.1.3 Economic development is defined in the NPPF as development within the B Use Classes, public and community uses and main town centre uses. The NPPF (para 160) requires a robust evidence base to understand existing business needs and likely changes to the market. Plans have to take into account "new or emerging sectors likely to locate in their area. Plans are also required to plan positively for the "location, promotion and expansion of clusters or networks of knowledge driven or high technology industries",
- 13.1.4 A number of significant changes within the borough will support economic growth and prosperity over the next 15-20 years. A new economic hub at Brent Cross - Cricklewood will emerge as the "Gateway of North London". The creation of over 20,000 new jobs and a new Metropolitan Town Centre will transform the sub regional economy of north London. The hub will be well connected by new and improved transport links to Central London, including a new station on the Midland Mainline and Thameslink routes. It will form one of the critical nodes on the emerging North West London – Luton Coordination Corridor. Another significant economic node on this growth corridor is Colindale where an Area Action Plan will support planned growth of 10,000 new homes and 1,000 jobs over a 10-15 year period.
- 13.1.5 As part of our evidence base we commissioned an Employment Land Review to examine supply and demand for office and industrial floorspace in Barnet. As a town centre use the Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment also examined the office market. The distribution of safeguarded employment sites including town centres is shown on Map 9.

13.2 Barnet's office market

- 13.2.1 Barnet is not considered to be a strategic office location at present. The borough has about 446,000 m² of office floorspace focused in six major office locations (Edgware, Hendon, Golders Green, and Finchley Church End town centres and The Hyde and North London Business Park) as well as along the major thoroughfares of the A5 and A1000. The majority of office stock is of a secondary nature i.e. above retail or as part of a mixed used development with a predominance of units under 465m². The office stock is not modern; over 60% of office floorspace in Barnet is pre-1970.

³¹ The knowledge economy is characterised by the rise of professional, managerial and scientific and technical occupations in all sectors - the local futures group - the London knowledge economy - 2006

- 13.2.2 An analysis of office take-up shows most demand coming from small businesses and larger organisations already based in Barnet. Take-up is dominated by leasing transactions for under 232 m², including tenants such as small insurance companies, solicitors, building firms and publishers. The dominance of these smaller transactions, means that rents are high on a £ per m² basis. Take-up is more healthy than with comparable boroughs such as Harrow suggesting that access to M1 and North Circular Road may account for popularity of small office units.
- 13.2.3 The regeneration of Brent Cross will create a new commercial district including a new office quarter. The Station Quarter at Brent Cross - Cricklewood will form the commercial hub for the new development. It will include approximately 370,000 m² of office space which would provide accommodation for an estimated 17,000 employees. The predominant use within this zone is business and employment with some retail and other commercial uses at ground floor and some residential at upper levels. The London Plan recognises that Brent Cross – Cricklewood will become a strategic office location which, with its retail offer, will justify designation as an Outer London Development Centre.
- 13.2.4 It is likely that the development at Brent Cross Cricklewood will meet a large part of the growth in service-orientated employment. The majority of demand is for smaller units which is consistent with the borough's current office stock profile. Barnet's town centres will continue to play a role in supplying flexible and affordable office space to smaller businesses including home workers.

13.3 Barnet's industrial land

- 13.3.1 Barnet's industrial³² stock totals about 437,000 m² and is focused on the safeguarded employment sites as shown on Map 9. The quality of stock is assessed below. As with the office stock demand has been local rather than attracting any significant numbers of large 'in-coming' occupiers and take-up is dominated by lease transactions for small space.
- 13.3.2 Proposals for Brent Cross – Cricklewood will involve the displacement of existing industrial uses and distribution and warehouse uses. This includes the Claremont Way Industrial Estate. We will work with developers to ensure that such uses receive assistance in relocating. Provision for relocation of the waste transfer facility and rail freight facility together with business, industrial and warehouse and distribution uses will be made on the land bordered by the A5 and Midland Main Line railway (as identified in the Brent Cross – Cricklewood Development Framework).

13.4 Future employment growth

- 13.4.1 Based on predicted employment growth of between 12 and 17% between 2009 and 2026 the Barnet Employment Land Review has, using employment land densities and employment plot ratios, converted growth into a demand for land of 13.4 (157,000 m²) to 13.5 ha (161,000m²) between 2009 and 2026. To meet this additional demand we will direct new business development to Brent Cross – Cricklewood and then to the regeneration and development areas of Colindale and Mill Hill East. There is capacity for the forecast level of provision to be exceeded, subject to market conditions over the plan period. We anticipate that smaller scale business development will also be attracted to our town centres

13.5 Safeguarding of employment land

- 13.5.1 The Employment Land Review identified 18.8 ha of land that forms recognisable clusters of employment uses in Barnet and assessed whether this land is fit for purpose, accessible and marketable. The assessment considered that 36% of employment land was fit for purpose and should be safeguarded, a further 61% was considered to also justify safeguarding as locations where employment uses remain viable but may require refurbishment and improvement to retain future employment. The dominance of small

³² Industrial land comprises light industry, research and development, general industry, storage and distribution

occupiers in Barnet means that there is a strong case to safeguard those sites which would appear to meet local demand. The clusters that scored poorly tended to be on constrained sites in predominantly residential areas. Only 3% of land was considered worthy of release for alternative uses.

- 13.5.2 The Mayor's Supplementary Planning Guidance on Industrial Capacity (March 2008) sets out a framework for planning, monitoring and managing surplus employment land in London over the next 20 years. Barnet is classified as a borough that is suited to limited transfer of designated employment industrial sites to other uses. Our approach is therefore to safeguard and support those locations that are capable of addressing the needs of modern business. DM 14 New and Existing Employment Space sets out more detail on the safeguarding of employment sites.

13.6 Supporting local business

- 13.6.1 In order to develop a sound understanding of local economic conditions to inform strategies and strengthen the economic role of local authorities we are required to produce a Local Economic Assessment. This will provide an update to the evidence produced as part of the Employment Land Review.
- 13.6.2 Levels of self-employment in Barnet are high. The rate of self-employment reached 15.9% in 2010, compared to 10.8% in London.³³ Barnet has traditionally had a high level of entrepreneurship with significantly higher levels of VAT registrations than most adjoining Boroughs and comfortably higher than comparable outer London Boroughs (SQW study 2006) The survival rate of VAT- based businesses is similar in Barnet as in London as a whole: 22% of businesses have traded for less than 2 years and 36% for at least 10 years.³⁴
- 13.6.3 Self-employment is a work pattern usually associated with creative industries such as leisure software, music and performance, fashion and advertising. The creative industry sector although not as significant in size as finance and business services does exhibit a need to cluster around town centres and access generic business support as well as start-up and specialist accommodation. Research by GLA Economics reveals that Barnet is home to over 2,000 firms engaged in creative industries, one of the highest levels in Outer London. The Arts and Creative Industries in North London – Strategy and Action Plan 2006 -2012 identified clusters in the southern and eastern halves of Barnet with a particular focus on North Finchley town centre.
- 13.6.4 We are developing a better insight into the experience of businesses in Barnet, particularly in our town centres, and we will continue to use S106 planning obligations imaginatively to support local business. In order to support small and medium-sized enterprises in Barnet and enable them to be more aware of, and bid for, local construction contracts we employ a 'Business Links Officer', funded by contributions from S106 towards employment and skills needs.
- 13.6.5 Providing affordable and flexible workspace helps small to medium businesses, particularly home-workers in the knowledge economy and those engaged in creative industries, to continue their valuable contribution to Barnet's prosperity. As well as safeguarding existing employment sites we will encourage the provision of employment floorspace, particularly in town centres, to meet the changing needs of modern business. Through S106 on new development we will ensure the provision of affordable premises such as enterprise hubs / innovation centres that are flexible and attractive to home-workers and small businesses. Such facilities can provide access to services and business advice which would otherwise be beyond their resources. Providing a range of facilities in the borough will enable start-ups as well as existing businesses to grow and prosper within Barnet. Our SPD on Contributions to Enterprise, Employment and

³³ State of the Borough Report - 2011

³⁴ Understanding Barnet and it's Economy - 2009

Training³⁵ provides guidance on when and how we secure new provision for affordable workspace.

- 13.6.6 We also need to be more flexible with regard to the temporary re-use of vacant premises, such as shops and offices, particularly in our town centres. Such accommodation can provide short term opportunities for enterprise and should provide opportunities for the creative industries to cluster and bring added value and activity to town centres.

13.7 Further and higher education and skills training

- 13.7.1 Barnet aims to be recognised as the home of a leading university with an international reputation. Middlesex University is relocating its dispersed academic programmes from other sites to its main campus at Hendon. New state-of-the-art teaching, learning resource centre and research facilities are being developed alongside its existing buildings. Middlesex University has a vital role to play in providing higher educational opportunities at its Hendon Campus and in supporting local businesses through applied research and consultancy, including Knowledge Transfer Partnerships³⁶, and supporting small and medium enterprise start-ups and incubator units.

- 13.7.2 We also work in partnership with Barnet College and new facilities are on site in Chipping Barnet and planned for Colindale as part of the regeneration of that area.

- 13.7.3 Although many of Barnet's residents are employed in highly skilled jobs that contribute to London's knowledge economy and have above average qualifications, it is important that there is a range of local jobs that suit different levels of skills and abilities. The types of service jobs found in Barnet can usually provide flexibility so that people can work part-time or from home.

- 13.7.4 The London economy is likely to become more reliant on high levels of skills and knowledge-based competencies. We need to enhance the levels of skill and qualification attainment among residents, in order to respond to the ongoing industrial and occupational shifts and fully exploit emerging initiatives within Barnet.. We will work with local businesses, developers and partners to drive forward Apprenticeships and work programmes in the borough.

- 13.7.5 Although in Barnet the percentage of working age population with little or no skills (7%) is well below the national average of 14% this is not evenly spread. Within Burnt Oak Ward 46% of the population has low or no qualifications. Tackling worklessness is an important issue within Barnet and we recognise the need to create a pathway to sustainable employment. Research by GLA Economics states that the main barriers to accessing work are:

- poor access to job opportunities
- lack of basic employability skills
- employer attitudes including discrimination
- and specific barriers such as childcare costs

Within Barnet there are some pockets particularly on the western side where residents have qualification and skills gaps. Without action such residents may not benefit from the job opportunities being created by new development.

- 13.7.6 Although the proportion of 16-18 year olds in Barnet not in education, employment or training (NEET), is lower than national levels it accounts for nearly 1 in 20 of that age group. In terms of getting NEET young people job ready an Employer Engagement Strategy for Barnet is being developed and ongoing links with employers have continued to be strengthened through the Education Business Partnership. Through S106 planning obligations we will seek to overcome barriers to accessing employment in Barnet by

³⁵ See timetable for production in LDS

³⁶ Knowledge Transfer Partnerships involve collaborative projects for carrying out research or developing products.

increasing opportunities for training for residents providing them with the skills to access the forecast increase in jobs.

13.7.7 Key partners in the Borough, including the council, Barnet College, Middlesex University, Job Centre Plus, and CommUNITY Barnet, have formed the Skills Development and Employability Group to progress the skills development agenda. Our approach will be driven by the aims to:

- close the deprivation gap by reducing the persisting impacts of worklessness and skilling up our less enabled residents, particularly those who are most vulnerable so that they become work ready and independent; moving into employment and becoming less reliant on public services
- maintain our competitive position and invest in future economic growth in the borough by ensuring our residents have the right skills to meet employer needs and to compete for the new job opportunities coming to the borough, particularly in the west of the borough
- increased prosperity and economic opportunities for local businesses, particularly our priority town centres and recognising the borough's enterprising nature and high proportion of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

13.7.8 We are working with development partners across all of the regeneration projects to identify what skills sets are required and also encouraging the use of local labour. Section 106 agreements for each of the regeneration schemes require the development of an employment and training strategy for the area, including apprenticeships and training in areas such as construction. The employment and training strategies are developed in consultation with the member partners of the Skills Development and Employability Group. We will also continue to support the Construction Training Initiative operated by Notting Hill Housing Trust in order to help our unemployed residents develop the essential skills that developers will require in delivering new housing in Barnet. The SPD on Contributions to Enterprise, Employment and Training provides further details on increasing opportunities for training.

Policy CS 8 – Promoting a strong and prosperous Barnet

The council and its partners will ensure a strong and prosperous Barnet that provides opportunity for economic advancement.

We will support Barnet residents in accessing work by:

- Delivering 1,500 new jobs in our growth areas of Colindale and Mill Hill East by 2021 and a total of 20,000 new jobs in Brent Cross-Cricklewood by 2026
- Attracting business growth as part of Brent Cross - Cricklewood with further provision in the other growth areas and town centres to meet the forecast demand for business space of 13.5 ha (161,000m²) by 2026
- requiring major developments to provide financial contributions and to deliver employment and training initiatives in consultation with the Skills Development and Employability Group;
- working in partnership with the Skills Development and Employability Group in delivering the skills agenda required for a growing borough in a successful London suburb

We will support businesses by:

- safeguarding existing employment sites that meet the needs of modern business in accordance with Policy DM14 New and Existing Employment Space.
- encouraging development that improves the quality of existing employment provision
- encouraging new mixed use commercial floorspace in our priority town centres (Edgware, North Finchley, Finchley Church End and Chipping Barnet) where access to public transport is good
- in order to support small to medium sized enterprises new employment provision should include a range of unit sizes and types such as affordable and flexible workspaces and home working hubs

- through the Skills Development and Employability Group building an understanding about the experience of local businesses and their skills needs
- encouraging partnership working between providers of further and higher education and local business

We will support providers of further and higher education by:

- encouraging the provision of new and improved facilities within Barnet and
- encouraging the provision of further and higher education programmes, skills training and continuing professional development programmes, business support initiatives and applied research.

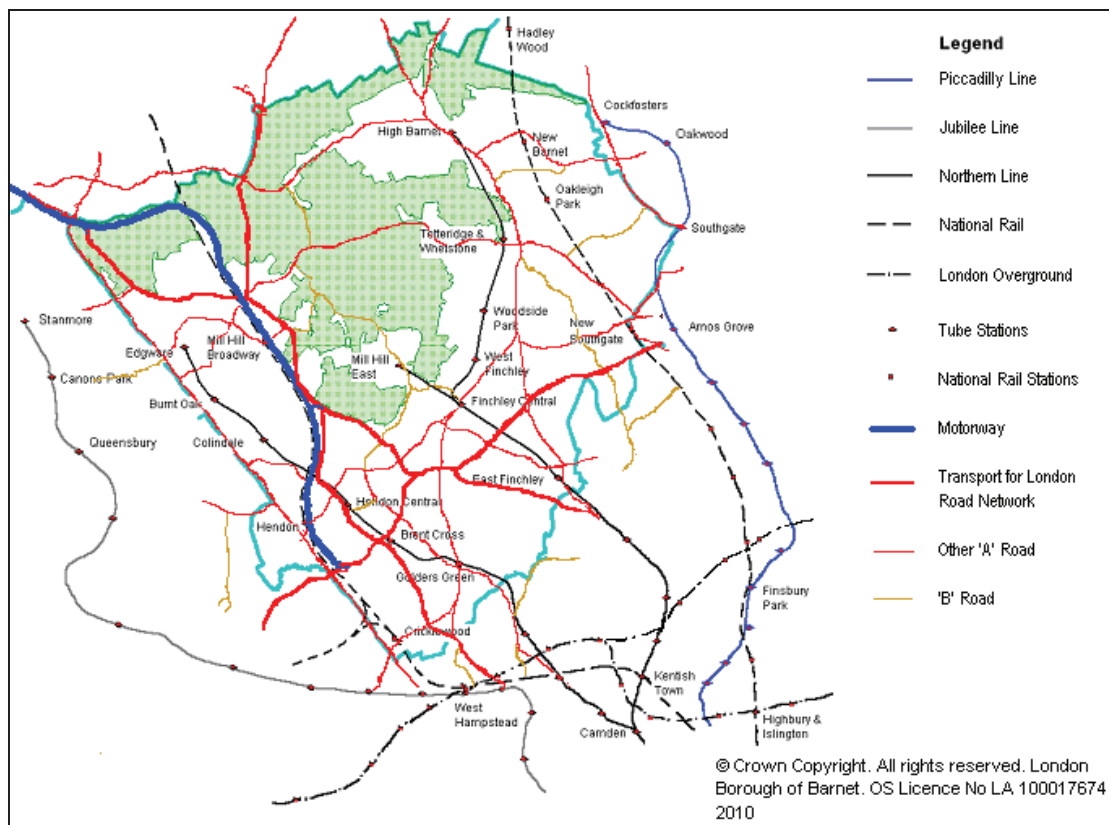
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005 ➤ Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010 ➤ Employment Land Review, 2009 ➤ Four Greens Report – Arts and Creative Industries in North London, 2005 ➤ GLA Economics – London’s Creative Workforce – 2009 Update (Working Paper 40) ➤ Industrial Capacity, Supplementary Planning Guidance, GLA, 2008 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009 ➤ London Plan, 2011 ➤ Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009 ➤ National Planning Policy Framework ➤ Skills Development Plan ➤ State of the Borough Report ➤ Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment, 2009 ➤ Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment, Update 2010 ➤ Understanding Barnet and it’s Economy, 2009 |
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14 Providing safe effective and efficient travel

- 14.1.1 One of the key purposes of Barnet's Core Strategy is to ensure that the high quality of the borough is preserved whilst at the same time ensuring that the anticipated growth of this London suburb can be achieved and remain successful through the delivery of the necessary social and physical infrastructure. Barnet considers that it is crucial to match everyone's needs to transport provision at lowest cost whilst improving safety and maintaining freedom to move. Providing effective and efficient travel services and facilities across the borough is essential to delivering successful growth in Barnet, which will help ensure that economic prosperity is maintained and enhanced.
- 14.1.2 Our Sustainable Community Strategy has highlighted that according to the 2008/09 Place Survey residents are most likely to say that the level of traffic congestion and road and pavement repairs are the most important issues that require improvement in their local area.

Map 13 – Transport links in Barnet



14.2 Getting around Barnet

- 14.2.1 Barnet residents make 914,000 trips per day, travelling in total nearly 4.7 million kilometres (kms). This represents 5% of all trips in London and each person makes 3.1 trips per day and travels 15.7 kms, compared to the London average of 2.6 trips and 14.9 kms respectively. Shopping and personal business each account for 29% of trips, followed by work and education, at 21% and 12% respectively. Over half the journeys made are wholly within the borough (52%), 11% are to Enfield, Haringey and Waltham Forest, 32% to other places in London and 5% to locations outside London.
- 14.2.2 Map 13 shows that the borough is well served by public transport for radial travel. As well as underground and national rail services into Central London it has a network of bus services, which in some cases provide high frequency services on multiple routes along

radial corridors, such as the A5, A41/A502 Brent Street, A109 and B550 Colney Hatch Lane.

- 14.2.3 The borough has high levels of car ownership and as a suburban location is reliant on the car for many necessary journeys, nevertheless many residents use public transport. The car is the dominant transport mode in outer London and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Half the trips made by Barnet residents are by car and motorcycle. Nearly 80%³⁷ of our residents live in households with a motor vehicle, yet 62% use public transport at least once a week with one third using it daily. Whilst many residents choose to commute by public transport (41% of journeys to work³⁸), there is clearly a strong desire to own and use a car for other trip purposes, particularly in the more outer suburban areas of the borough.

14.3 Barnet's road network

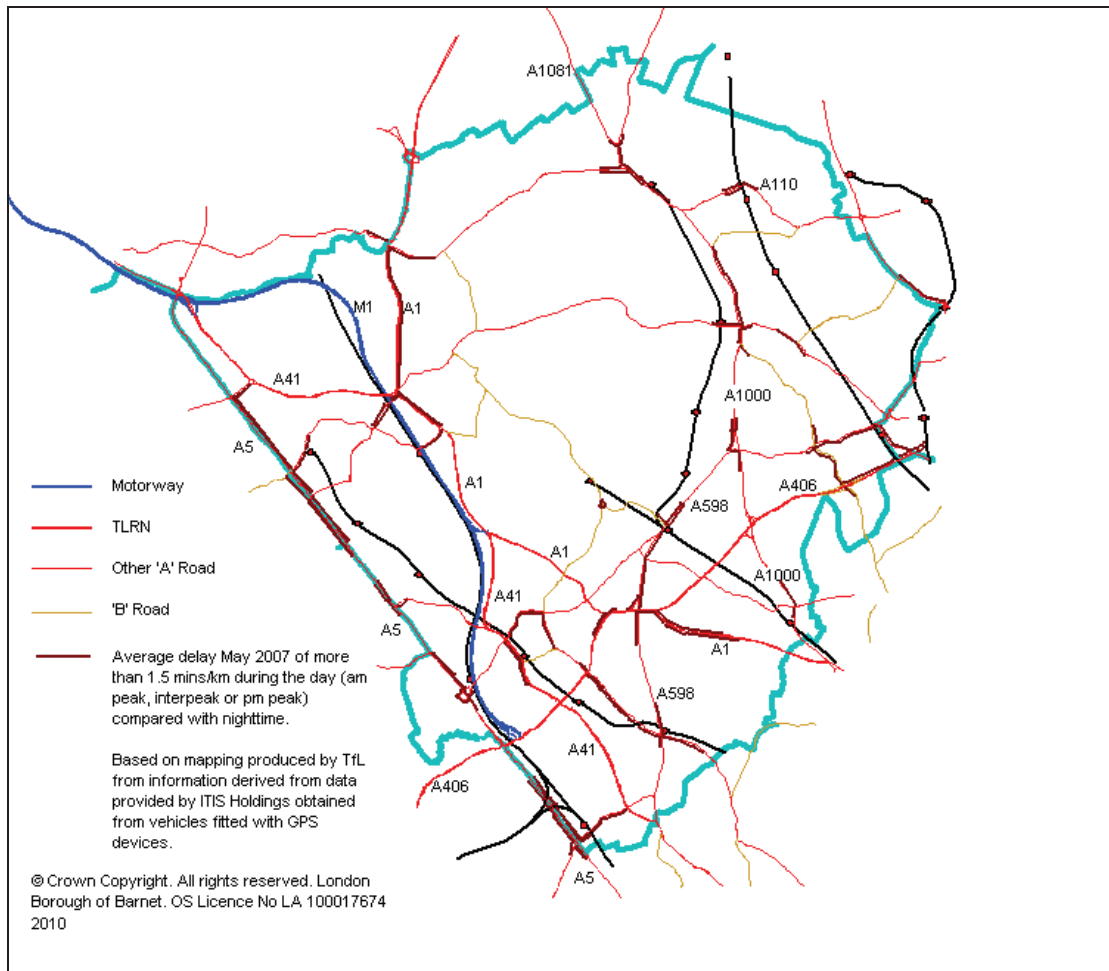
- 14.3.1 Barnet is a growing borough and the population is forecast to increase by 14% by 2026. Poor transport accessibility and barriers to movement are major inhibitors to growth and investment in radial links is a priority including to existing town centres which themselves require improvement. There are significant issues with many radial and other links across Barnet and we are exploring opportunities for improving these as part of our regeneration schemes and through long term approaches to improving strategic transport infrastructure. There are significant anticipated increases in movement in Barnet's regeneration and development areas which will require investment in highway infrastructure as well as access improvements to existing public transport interchanges, for example, within the Brent Cross Cricklewood (BXC) and Colindale regeneration areas. Major improvements are also required on the strategic road network, especially the A406 (North Circular Road) at Staples Corner, Henly's Corner and Golders Green Road junctions. While the Staples Corner scheme will be delivered as part of the BXC regeneration, the other major improvements are envisaged to take place beyond the 10 year life of the TfL Business Plan (2021). Securing all possible external funding is and will be a priority.
- 14.3.2 Currently 49% of trips are by car as driver or passenger³⁹ and as shown by Map 14 traffic congestion is particularly acute along the A5 corridor and on the A1, A598, A1000, A41 and A406 North Circular Road, the significant east-west link in north London.
- 14.3.3 Packages of investment to reduce delays to all road users are being pursued through partnership working with key stakeholders such as TfL and major developers for the regeneration schemes, and through securing Local Implementation Plan (LIP) and other funding for particular measures. Further details of these improvements are set out in Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan. A more comprehensive improvement at Henly's Corner beyond that of the currently proposed TfL scheme is seen as essential to securing the long term growth and prosperity across Barnet.
- 14.3.4 In producing the London Plan the Mayor recognised that in setting car parking standards (Table 6.2) he sought a parking regime which balances the environmental desirability of reducing car use with the need to provide attractive viable development in town centres, while recognising that many people will continue to travel by car, particularly in Outer London.

³⁷ Barnet residents' survey 2007 - 78% of residents have a motor vehicle in the household. 62% use public transport at least once per week – 33% use it daily.

³⁸ 2001 Census – usual travel to work excluding those working mainly at or from home

³⁹ London Travel Demand Survey (2007-2009 Combined Household Survey database) as reported to the borough in MTS IMPLEMENTATION TARGETS - DATA REPORTS 2008 (2008/09) (Nov 2009)

Map 14 – Traffic congestion hotspots in Barnet

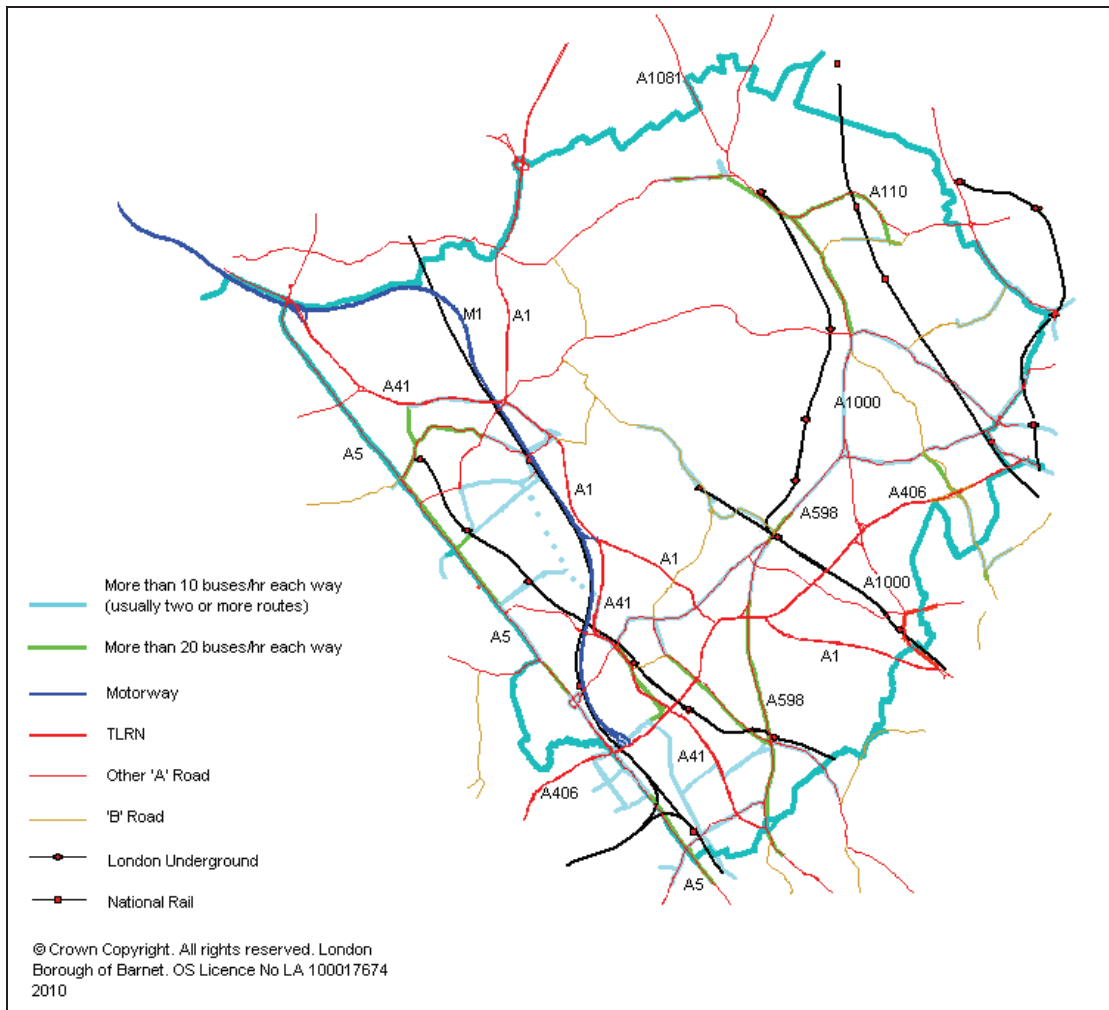


- 14.3.5 Our approach to parking provision is to accept the need for management and restraint, but to apply it carefully and appropriately, and in all cases reflecting local circumstances. Parking standards in new developments will vary across the borough to reflect the transport, particularly the public transport, accessibility of individual locations. DM17 Travel Impact and Parking Standards contain a degree of flexibility with the intention that car parking provision will reflect the needs and travel habits of our residents and businesses and appropriate development-related new transport infrastructure will be provided.

14.4 Barnet's public transport network

- 14.4.1 Public transport trips make up some 20% of journeys by Barnet residents (11% by bus, 7% by underground and 2% by rail, with taxi contributing a further 1%).
- 14.4.2 Map 13 shows the rail services that Barnet residents use. Underground rail services in Barnet and on its borders (Northern and Piccadilly Lines) are key to public transport provision as they provide direct connections to central London. First Capital Connect provides rail services on the Thameslink Line and on the Great Northern route. The council is supportive of the principles of Step Free Access at all rail stations in the Borough and strongly supports the Thameslink Upgrade programme. Barnet also welcomes the ongoing improvements to the Northern Line and would not want to see any downgrading of it in the future.
- 14.4.3 The bus is an element of the public transport network in Barnet. The network as shown by Map 15 is focussed on moving people on the radial corridors (paralleling the Northern Line). In general bus journeys in Barnet are slower than car journeys, even when the time taken to park is taken into account.

Map 15 - Barnet's bus network



- 14.4.4 Through ongoing regeneration in the North West London - Luton Corridor, particularly in the vicinity of Brent Cross Cricklewood (BXC) and Colindale regeneration areas, and around development opportunities presented by public transport nodes such as Finchley Central and Edgware we are seeking to deliver improved public transport services and facilities. Improved bus provision (in terms of configuration as well as capacity) will have to play a key role in meeting the transport needs of current and future residents (up to 374,000 by 2018 from 335,000 in 2008, and to 421,000 by 2031, a 30% increase from 2006). A number of new and extended bus services are being pursued through the BXC and Colindale regeneration schemes, including better links between the two areas.

14.5 Walking and cycling in Barnet

- 14.5.1 Walking is an important mode of travel for short journeys (29% of all trips⁴⁰), and Barnet's network of town centres makes walking a convenient way for many residents to access services in the borough. Levels of walking are already at or above average for Outer London boroughs. Cycling tends to be limited (1%), at least in part due to the topography of Barnet and its rolling landscape of valleys and ridges. There is a good network of cycle routes signed along quiet roads, and some good off-road routes across the borough.
- 14.5.2 Section 12 and Policy CS7 – Enhancing and Protecting Barnet's Open Spaces identify a number of existing off road recreational routes through green spaces and refer to work to

⁴⁰ London Travel Demand Survey, 2006-09 as reported in Developing a Sub-regional Transport Plan Interim report on challenges & opportunities 18/02/2010 – TfL planning

develop Area Frameworks as part of the All London Green Grid. This work will incorporate proposals for the existing strategic walks and for other links including cycling routes that will provide a basis for securing funding to develop and improve these.

14.6 Promoting active travel and improving health

- 14.6.1 The upward trend in obesity is seen as the result of a combination of factors such as a less active lifestyle and changes in eating patterns. Section 16 and Policy CS11 – Improving Health and Well Being in Barnet consider health in general, but transport can impact on health in a number of ways. We will work with partners on locating health services where access can be improved, particularly for those vulnerable groups with physical or sensory impairment. Active travel through walking and cycling can play an important part in increasing levels of activity to address poor health. Good quality walking surfaces and off road cycle routes can make walking or cycling an attractive option for some people, including children on their way to and from school, who would otherwise be unable to take advantage of them. This approach can help tackle childhood obesity.
- 14.6.2 Poor air quality, which is concentrated around major roads in Barnet, has particular impacts on the health of people suffering from cardiovascular and respiratory diseases. Section 18.11 sets out what we are doing to improve air quality.
- 14.6.3 Road traffic accidents and pedestrian injuries from trips and falls usually impacts on health. Para 14.8.9 sets out what we are doing to improve safety for all road users.

14.7 Investing in infrastructure

- 14.7.1 Despite having the fourth highest housing target in the London Plan (22,550 new homes between 2011 and 2021) Barnet does not benefit from the levels in public transport investment seen in other parts of the capital, such as the Olympic sites, Crossrail and Central London. We therefore take a realistic approach towards use of the car, public transport, walking and cycling based on sound evidence including our accompanying infrastructure delivery programme, planned improvements in the TfL Business Plan and Network Rail's Thameslink Enhancement Programme which is strongly supported. We are also pursuing innovative models of financing significant transport improvements including tax incremental models.
- 14.7.2 Increasing travel demand without proportionate infrastructure investment across the modes leads to increased congestion and reduced reliability of transport networks and services. Reducing car use as part of an overall transport strategy can tackle congestion particularly in urban areas. In suburban areas such as Barnet this is more challenging (except in some town centres) as the lower public transport accessibility limits transport choice for many journeys. Nevertheless the reallocation of road space from general traffic to specific modes is an alternative that has been adopted, such as along the A5 corridor. Increased priority for public transport helps make it more attractive, but does so at the risk of further increasing congestion and can displace traffic elsewhere on the highway network to less appropriate routes. This is contrary to Barnet's approach which is to ensure that traffic uses appropriate routes, and in particular that through traffic uses the main road network. Any need for additional bus priority measures will therefore be carefully considered by the council.
- 14.7.3 Given the existing transport issues outlined above, our four inter-related and complementary transport priorities to provide effective and efficient travel in Barnet are:
- Ensuring more efficient use of the local road network;
 - Taking a comprehensive approach to tackling the school run;
 - Delivery of high quality transport systems in regeneration areas; and
 - More environmentally friendly transport networks.
- 14.7.4 As part of our evidence base for the Local Plan and the LIP further work has been undertaken to develop these priorities into a comprehensive approach to improving transport in Barnet, as set out below. Barnet considers it is at the forefront of suburban

transport policy and will engage where others wish to benchmark against the Barnet approach. We will also consider adopting the approaches of others where proven to work elsewhere and, crucially, be applicable to Barnet.

- 14.7.5 A borough-wide Transport Review has assessed the likely level of traffic up to 2031 on key routes in Barnet, delays at junctions and crowding levels on the underground and overground rail networks. The Review has utilised the North London Highway Model developed by Transport for London to support the Mayor's Transport Strategy, the Sub Regional Transport Plans and the work of the Sub Regional Panels. Rail and tube crowding information has been derived from TfLs Londonwide Railplan model, This has also utilised information from analysis undertaken as part of the major regeneration projects. Taken together this helps ensure that the Barnet Local Plan is robust.

14.8 Ensuring more efficient use of the local road network

- 14.8.1 Without large scale capital investment in new capacity we have to make better use of the existing road network. Complementing the other elements of our approach we have prioritised the reduction of congestion, the main concern of Barnet residents, and welcome the Mayor of London's proposals to smooth the flow of traffic. Tackling the causes of peak hour congestion will help to make the local road network operate more efficiently for all road users. We will work with TfL to proactively review the existing traffic signals with the aim of rationalising their provision where they are no longer needed or where there are clear benefits in doing so, and removal is a safe and practicable option, for example by replacing pelican crossings with zebra crossings. Moreover, any new traffic signals will only be introduced as part of new developments on an exception basis, justified on road safety grounds and / or to reduce congestion at key locations where traffic is becoming increasingly delayed in peak periods.
- 14.8.2 We will continue to invest in improvements to the condition of roads and footways in the borough, and seek developer contributions towards this where appropriate. Maintenance and utility work can have a serious impact on the transport network, so we will continue to work hard to co-ordinate such activity and minimise the impact on all road users. We will also continue to ensure that construction related traffic is effectively controlled through the requirement for developers to adhere to Construction Management Plans.
- 14.8.3 Barnet's road network is classified within a hierarchy based on the functions each type of road provides to road users and adjacent land uses. The council will seek to ensure that roads are used appropriately according to their status in the defined hierarchy, as set out in Policy DM17 Travel Impact and Parking Standards.
- 14.8.4 Barnet continues to seek through development management work to ensure that appropriate enhancements are made to the affected road network in order to accommodate the new users, whilst at the same time helping to address existing pinch-points, particularly in regeneration areas including BXC, Colindale, Mill Hill East, Stonegrove and West Hendon. Examples include A406 junctions with the A5, M1 and A41 as part of BXC, A5/Colindale Avenue junction improvement as part of Colindale, various new and improved junctions in the Mill Hill East area, Canon's Corner roundabout improvements in Stonegrove and A5 on-line improvements and removal of the Perryfield Way gyratory system as part of West Hendon.
- 14.8.5 Parking is also key to ensuring that the road network is used efficiently and Barnet will continue to manage a parking regime for new developments which recognises that many residents will continue to own and travel by car. Complementing the use of car clubs which can be successful in suburban locations and which are starting to appear in Barnet, we will seek appropriate parking ratios in locations with the highest public transport accessibility, chiefly in town centres and regeneration areas. On street parking management and controls will continue to be applied appropriately taking into consideration local conditions and issues, and to ensure the free flow of traffic, and although there will be a presumption against any new controlled parking zones (CPZs), the exception to this will be in areas close to major developments and Regeneration areas where existing controls are likely to

be reviewed and additional measures may be introduced to protect the adjacent communities.

- 14.8.6 With increased on-line services and growth of home based workers, combined with more flexible working practices, we expect the pattern of commuter travel to change further as more people are able to travel outside the busiest times. In accommodating a change from the conventional 'Monday to Friday, 9 to 5' pattern we are supportive of improved e-infrastructure and access to business services and managed workspaces in town centre locations that may come forward as part of planning applications. The council is leading by example with flexible working policies and equipping staff to enable them to work remotely.
- 14.8.7 To help improve the efficient use of the Barnet road network we will work with TfL on improving the local bus network, with the aim of more closely and efficiently matching demand and capacity, and in particular seek to ensure that buses use appropriate roads and do not impact unduly on residential streets. We will also seek a review of the night bus network and to provide appropriate facilities for coaches, private hire vehicles and taxis.
- 14.8.8 Safety of the road network also remains a major priority. Accident rates in Barnet have fallen dramatically since 2000 (136 people were killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in the borough in 2008 compared with 261 in 2000⁴¹) but the rate of decline has now slowed. We will continue, to monitor the levels and types of accident on the borough's roads and develop local road safety solutions to target particular safety issues and locations with high numbers of personal injury accidents.
- 14.8.9 In managing our streets, town centres and transport hubs as well as in new developments we aim to provide secure and attractive surroundings that will invite residents and visitors to use local facilities. We will seek to ensure that any new transport interchanges are designed to help address personal safety issues and reflect the principles of Secured by Design and that well maintained streets and town centres with convenient road crossing facilities allow pedestrians to move around safely.

14.9 Taking a comprehensive approach to tackling the school run

- 14.9.1 We have identified the school run as a key factor in contributing to peak hour congestion (accounting for approximately 30% of car trips by Barnet residents in the AM peak) which negatively impacts on the council's ambition of keeping Barnet moving. Action is required to manage peak period travel if worsening transport network conditions are to be avoided and we will continue to take positive action in this area centred around our work with schools to develop and implement progressive school travel plans.
- 14.9.2 We will ensure that School Travel Plans (STPs) in Barnet are both monitored and effective and that if necessary remedial measures are taken if targets are not met, and encourage the dissemination of good practice among the borough's schools. Barnet has been very successful in starting to address this major issue, achieving a 12% reduction in the numbers of pupils driven to school. Barnet is a comparatively safe borough and parents and guardians concerns about child safety are largely unfounded (nearly 2% of accidents in London, which involved the death or serious injury of a child, happened in Barnet in 2009). However much more remains to be done and some STPs are only partly adhered so we will prioritise this area of work. In particular we will take more direct action through seeking to increase the availability of funding to implement complementary traffic management improvements in the neighbourhoods around our schools including taking positive action to prevent any pupil parking, promoting car sharing and improved cycle parking facilities, and will encourage more children to walk and cycle to and from school.

⁴¹ TfL Road Safety Unit, from data reported to the police in accordance with the Stats 19 national reporting system

14.10 Delivery of high quality transport systems in regeneration areas and town centres

- 14.10.1 Barnet's aspirations for consolidated growth are set out at CS1 (Barnet's Place Shaping Strategy - the Three Strands Approach), CS3 (Distribution of Growth in Meeting Housing Aspirations), and CS 6 (Promoting Barnet's Town Centres). Development along the North West London to Luton Corridor, provides opportunities to deliver high quality transport improvements in a planned and structured manner, and closely co-ordinated with other transport authorities, including adjacent boroughs. The Major growth areas in the Borough are at various stages of the planning process and are supported by their associated Area Action Plans, Development Frameworks, Transport Assessments, Travel Plans, negotiated planning (S106) and highway agreements, planning conditions and delivery plans. These demonstrate how these mixed use developments, with phased delivery and monitoring programmes will deliver travel requirements in a way that is manageable and appropriately funded, with residential development being located in close proximity to everyday services and facilities. Outside these areas we will continue to require Transport Assessments and Travel Plans as set out in DM17 Travel Impact and Parking Standards. Through detailed assessment work for the approved Area Action Plans in Colindale and Mill Hill East, and through the Transport Assessment for BXC we will continue to ensure that transport capacity is closely aligned with the predicted demand. Concentrated mixed use development is generally being sought that will help reduce the need to travel longer distances.
- 14.10.2 A sponsored project, building on the "London to Luton corridor Prospectus", is planned to ensure all relevant authorities work together on a co-ordinated and focused approach to the A5 corridor. Barnet is also considering the possibility of a high quality bus scheme along the A5.
- 14.10.3 Expected traffic movements in these growth areas have resulted in investment being pursued for access improvements to existing public transport interchanges to help achieve a step change in the public transport accessibility level. For example, within the BXC, Colindale and Mill Hill East regeneration and development areas, where the relevant bus, train and tube stations are all planned to be improved. Work to date has also highlighted the need for improvements on the strategic road network, especially the A406 (North Circular Road), A5 and A401 including Staples Corner interchange for A5 / A406. Major upgrades to the Thameslink rail corridor and the Northern Line are programmed. At BXC efficient use of the transport system will be assisted by utilising existing spare and future new planned capacity on the rail network, particularly in the contra-peak direction.
- 14.10.4 A number of well served town centres, such as Edgware, Golders Green and Brent Cross Shopping Centre are already public transport hubs and there are opportunities to increase the density of activity within these centres so that people can access local services by various means of transport. At BXC in particular the regeneration scheme includes a new bus station at the Shopping Centre, many new and enhanced bus services, including better bus links between BXC and Colindale and neighbouring boroughs, a bus-based rapid transit system, improvements at the existing Brent Cross tube and Cricklewood train stations and a new railway station on the midland mainline with many passengers expected to reverse commute and arrive in the 'contra-peak' direction, from Central London in the morning, helping to utilise spare rail capacity.
- 14.10.5 Planned development and enhancement programmes in town centres will provide opportunities to improve the public realm, public transport service and interchange, short-trip making via walking, parking and servicing arrangements and, particularly, accessibility; helping to make town centres more attractive places to visit. Town centres are also prime locations for enhancement and new development opportunities are being explored through Town Centre Frameworks and other planned approaches as set out in Policy CS6 – Promoting Barnet's Town Centres.

- 14.10.6 The individual Town Centre Frameworks will identify opportunities to enhance the public realm and improve accessibility for all users and will seek to support the provision of a wide range of shops and services to meet the needs of diverse local populations. The Frameworks will create a strategy, which promotes and maximises existing and future movement opportunities including public transport and pedestrian and cycle connections. Public realm enhancements should be informed by English Heritage's publication 'Streets for All - A Guide to the Management of London's Streets'.
- 14.10.7 The Frameworks should act as the basis for the preparation of detailed transport mitigation proposals likely to be required in association with future redevelopment proposals within the Priority Town Centres. These proposals should be based upon the outputs of an area wide transport model. These will be delivered through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), S.106 and other contributions from development.
- 14.10.8 We support measures to efficiently and effectively manage freight activity arising from new development and existing buildings. Delivery & Servicing Plans are intended to improve the safety and reliability of deliveries, help reduce congestion and minimise costs and impact. Consolidation Logistics Plans are intended to effectively manage all types of construction freight vehicle movement.

14.11 More environmentally friendly transport networks

- 14.11.1 Traffic is a significant contributor to poor air quality in Barnet with the highest levels of oxides of nitrogen and particulates concentrated around major roads. In Barnet the issue of climate change and the contribution of traffic to it will be mitigated through support for mixed use developments, particularly in our regeneration areas and by comprehensively tackling the school run. In our SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction we set out generic design and construction principles in order to reduce the contribution of travel to our carbon footprint. Major improvements such as the Thameslink and Northern Line upgrade programmes and the new mainline rail station at Brent Cross will also have a significant positive impact.
- 14.11.2 However with the car remaining the most dominant form of travel in outer London, then the way in which they are powered needs to be made more efficient, using fuels which are less polluting, particularly in terms of carbon emissions. For electric vehicles to become more popular, infrastructure will be required to allow such vehicles to be recharged. We are keen to encourage greater numbers of electric vehicles to help keep Barnet moving while minimising emissions and recognise that although some people will have access to off-street parking at home there will be a need for charging facilities in public places. We await new legislation permitting the installation of charging points on-street. In the meantime we are ensuring that the private sector funds the necessary infrastructure where this can be achieved and support the implementation of charging points within private areas of new and existing developments.
- 14.11.3 Travel planning associated with major developments also has a role to play in this priority. At BXC for example the developers have submitted a framework travel plan for all land uses as part of the outline application which includes mode split targets for each of the seven proposed phases of development, and the council has established a management regime to ensure that the developer monitors the actual mode split and phases of development can only come forward if the targets are being met or additional transport measures are proposed to ensure as far as possible that the mode split targets are met.
- 14.11.4 Efficiencies in the freight sector can also contribute to a reduced need for travel and in turn reduce CO2 emissions. These can be achieved by the promotion of Freight Quality Partnerships, Delivery and Servicing Plans, Construction Logistics Plans and Consolidation Centres which form part of the applications for many of our major sites and regeneration schemes, notably at Brent Cross. Freight Quality Partnerships are voluntary partnerships between the Freight Industry, its customers, local authorities, and other stakeholders who meet regularly with the aim of developing an understanding of local

distribution issues and promote constructive solutions, reconciling the need for access for goods and services with environmental and social concerns.

- 14.11.5 Public transport operations require facilities such as depots, interchanges and bus standing areas in order to operate flexibly and efficiently and the council will seek suitable opportunities to provide these as development sites come forward and as part of our Site Allocations DPD.

Policy CS 9 – Providing safe, effective and efficient travel

We will promote the delivery of appropriate transport infrastructure in order to support growth, relieve pressure on Barnet's transport network and reduce the impact of travel whilst maintaining freedom and ability to move at will.

We will ensure that new development funds infrastructure (through Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), Section 106 and other funding mechanisms) that enables Barnet to keep the existing traffic moving and cope with new movements both by all modes of transport.

Ensuring more efficient use of the local road network

- In order to enable traffic to flow more smoothly we will prioritise the reduction of congestion, including through encouraging trips to route according to the road hierarchy, the implementation of development related schemes that also address pinch-points, a review of traffic signals, parking management measures and more efficient freight movements.
- We will continue to invest in improvements to the condition of roads and footways in the borough to ensure that the local road network operates efficiently and safely, and seek to improve co-ordination of maintenance and utility works
- We will continue to manage a parking regime which recognises that many Barnet residents will continue to own and travel by car
- We will work with TfL to review and improve the bus network
- We will continue to make travel safer and more attractive by improving street lighting, security coverage and accessibility at transport interchanges and around bus stops as well as delivering, where resources permit, targeted local safety schemes.

Taking a comprehensive approach to tackling the school run

- We will seek to improve the effectiveness of our School Travel Plans to achieve a greater reduction in car based journeys and increase levels in walking and cycling to and from school
- We will implement complementary traffic management schemes outside schools, including preventing pupil parking

Delivery of high quality transport systems in regeneration areas and town centres

We will ensure that development is matched to capacity and promote key transport infrastructure proposals in our town centres and regeneration areas to support Barnet's growth, in particular we will:

- pursue housing and commercial growth in the areas outlined in CS1 (Barnet's Place Shaping Strategy - the Three Strands Approach), CS3 (Distribution of Growth in Meeting Housing Aspirations), and CS 6 (Promoting Barnet's Town Centres).
- ensure major planning proposals incorporate Transport Assessments, Travel Plans, Delivery and Servicing Plans, mitigation measures and S106 contributions / planning conditions and that adequate capacity and high quality safe transport facilities are delivered in line with demand for schemes that have phased delivery programmes
- deliver with partners

high quality public transport improvements along the A5 corridor

bus service enhancements as part of regeneration schemes, particularly at BXC and Colindale, including a new state of the art bus station as part of the redevelopment of the Brent Cross Shopping Centre and better bus services connecting these two key areas in Barnet

a Rapid Transit Bus Service at BXC - a dedicated bus service system which will link the key interchanges and destinations in the growth area

- we will promote public transport provision that supports access to health services and is accessible to people with physical or sensory impairment including a new step-free rail station at BXC together with improvements to Brent Cross underground and Cricklewood train stations
- we will promote major improvements to the strategic road network, especially the A406 (North Circular Road) at Staples Corner and the A41 interchanges, and in the long term Golders Green Road and Henly's Corner
- we will promote through Town Centre Frameworks and other planned approaches town centre development opportunities and enhancement programmes to improve the public realm, public transport services, and interchange, short-trip making by walking, parking and servicing controls and accessibility improvements
- we strongly support improvements to rail services in the borough including upgrades to the Thameslink and Northern Line routes.

More environmentally friendly transport networks

- We will support the use of low emission vehicles including electric cars through provision of charging points in new developments
- We will encourage mixed use development that will help to reduce the distances people need to travel to access everyday goods and services
- We will require the minimisation of road based freight movements associated with the roll-out of our regeneration schemes through, for BXC, the establishment of a (preferably rail based) construction consolidation centre, and for all regeneration schemes, the use of Delivery, Servicing, and Construction Management Plans.
- Through the development management process and partnership working we will seek further efficiencies and inter-modal transfer through the implementation of the Rail Freight Facility as part of the Brent Cross Cricklewood Proposals, and the promotion of Consolidation Centres and Freight Quality Partnerships.
- Where appropriate land for transport purposes will be identified and safeguarded in the Site Allocations DPD.
- We will seek to make cycling and walking more attractive for leisure, health and short trips.

Key References

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Annual Residents Survey, 2008 ➤ Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy 2010 – 2020 ➤ Barnet Transport Review, 2011 ➤ Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005 ➤ Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010 ➤ Infrastructure Delivery Plan ➤ Local Implementation Plan, LB Barnet ➤ London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ London Plan, 2011 ➤ London Travel Demand Survey (LTDS), Transport for London ➤ Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009 ➤ Streets for All (London) – English Heritage, 2000 ➤ Sustainable Design and Construction SPD ➤ Transport and the Historic Environment, English Heritage, 2004 ➤ Transport for London Business Plan |
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15 Enabling inclusive and integrated community facilities and uses

15.1 Introduction

- 15.1.1 A key part of our strategy for managing Barnet's future growth is ensuring that the services, facilities and infrastructure to support the local community and visitors are provided in suitable locations to meet increasing demand. The provision of community facilities plays a key role in meeting the Sustainable Community Strategy theme of Stronger Safer Communities for everyone. People of all ages and backgrounds should feel they can contribute to improving the borough both through their own behaviour and by working together with others.
- 15.1.2 Ensuring that families with small children, older people and disabled people can move around, enjoy and feel secure in their neighbourhoods enables everyone to fully participate in and contribute to the life of the community. Lifetime neighbourhoods help to build cohesive, successful and sustainable communities. Inclusive design puts people at the heart of the design process and can create accessible community spaces offering a wide range of services. Further details on inclusive design are set out at para 10.5.6.
- 15.1.3 Many community services and facilities are provided by our partners such as Barnet College, CommUNITY Barnet and the Metropolitan Police. As part of our Local Plan evidence base we are developing a greater understanding of supply and demand for community facilities. Community facilities provide for the health, welfare, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, leisure and cultural needs of the community. This will inform our Infrastructure Delivery Plan. Further details on funding of infrastructure are set out in Section 20.

15.2 One public sector approach

- 15.2.1 Through partnership working we are developing a 'one public sector' approach which entails that land is used efficiently and that high quality community facilities are provided in the right locations and are designed to meet the needs of customers. This approach is exemplified in the new customer access facility which was developed for the west of the borough in 2009 at Burnt Oak Library. Further development of our Customer Service Organisation will identify customer access points elsewhere in Barnet to complement coverage in the west of the borough.
- 15.2.2 We will work with partners including NHS Barnet and its successor bodies on projects which enable us to progress better service integration as already demonstrated by the links between children's centres at Oak Lane which provides health services and the Falow's Close facility in East Finchley. We will work in partnership to explore opportunities for children's and young people's health services.
- 15.2.3 The Coalition Government aims to reinforce the links between children's centres and Health Visitors. Children's centres work closely with Health Visitor leads and additional enhanced services such as midwifery and speech and language therapy are likely to be delivered through children's centres. Barnet will be exploring ways to strengthen these links to ensure that the health agenda is fully embedded in children's centres and outreach venues as part of an early intervention and prevention approach.
- 15.2.4 We will work with NHS Barnet and its successor bodies to site services where access can be improved, particularly for vulnerable groups.

15.3 Barnet's Voluntary and Community Sector

- 15.3.1 The voluntary and community sector is promoted and supported by CommUNITY Barnet. Established in 1979 this voluntary organisation has a membership of 260 groups and can reach out to 1,000 organisations in Barnet including grassroots self help groups, local branches of national charities, faith groups, sports and arts groups.
- 15.3.2 Users of community groups receive a variety of services from advice, advocacy and befriending to therapies, leisure activities and arts. According to CommUNITY Barnet, on average each local community group serves 500 service users. CommUNITY Barnet is a key partner in ensuring the delivery of integrated community facilities.

15.4 Barnet's libraries

- 15.4.1 Barnet's libraries act as a community hub providing access to flexible meeting space and wireless connectivity as well as the council and our partner's services. Barnet's library estate includes 16 library buildings. Most of the buildings in the library estate date from an age when models of service delivery were very different from today and when disabled access was not addressed. We will utilise opportunities for improved provision through major regeneration programmes as at Grahame Park (2013) and seek new facilities as part of major regeneration programmes such as Brent Cross - Cricklewood.

15.5 Leisure centres and swimming pools

- 15.5.1 In partnership with Greenwich Leisure Ltd we manage seven leisure centres and pools within the borough. Additional sports facilities include Barnet Copthall Stadium, which is considered to be North London's premier athletics venue. The council also manages an all weather sports pitch at Grahame Park.
- 15.5.2 We are developing a Leisure Facilities Strategy which will provide direction for any future public sector development. We have commissioned modelling work to measure and map current and future unmet need and access to public sector facilities as well as identify optimal locations to address projected unmet need. More generally, we encourage the development of new and improved leisure facilities where demand can be demonstrated and which support our Sport, Physical Activity & Physical Education Strategy 2008-2013.
- 15.5.3 In ensuring more efficient use of leisure facilities and greater footfall, co-location will be explored with other community provision on a site by site basis. In terms of the school estate we will seek to maximise use of school sport and leisure facilities by the wider community.

15.6 Arts and culture

- 15.6.1 Barnet is home to nearly 100 arts, music, theatre, literature, visual arts and film groups across the Borough. These groups and the facilities that they use serve our residents as well as those who work and visit the borough. We recognise that arts and cultural facilities are an important community asset contributing to community cohesion and a sense of identity and place as Barnet changes.
- 15.6.2 We are aware that though there are many rooms suitable for use for clubs, classes, meetings and rehearsals, the spaces for public performance of theatre, dance, musical theatre and music are limited in number. These spaces are mainly on the eastern side of the Borough where there is the greatest level of existing demand. There is also a shortage of spaces for exhibitions.
- 15.6.3 In order to create vibrant town centres we will support the temporary use of vacant shops for performance and creative work. Co-location for arts and culture will be explored with other community provision on a site by site basis. In terms of the school estate we will seek to maximise use of performance space in schools by the wider community.

15.7 Provision for children and young people

- 15.7.1 Results in our primary and secondary schools place Barnet in the top quartile nationally. Barnet has the second highest population of under 20 year olds in London. The Children and Young People Plan provides a strategic framework to continue the progress we are making in improving outcomes for the 25 % of the population that are under 20 years.
- 15.7.2 Within the major regeneration areas we have researched the need for education facilities that will result from the growth in population, for example, new primary schools are proposed at Mill Hill East and Colindale AAP growth locations, and existing schools in Brent Cross - Cricklewood will be replaced to higher standards and larger capacity. Planning for new provision will be closely linked to the distribution and delivery of housing growth as highlighted in the housing trajectory at Figure 1.
- 15.7.3 Barnet is experiencing unprecedented pressure on primary school places, which is projected to increase in the coming years as existing pupils progress through primary school and the number of births in the borough continues to rise. Significant capital investment is required in additional school places, with a permanent expansion proposed at Broadfields Primary School, and plans being developed to increase capacity in the Colindale area. Permanent expansions for future years are also proposed in the Finchley and East Barnet areas. Future capital investment will need to continue to be directed toward meeting the increasing demand for primary school places, as well as addressing the suitability and condition of buildings. On the basis of current school roll projections, pressure will emerge on secondary school places around 2015/16. Planning for increased secondary provision is more complex than the primary phase due to parental choice and the distance parents are willing for their children to travel.
- 15.7.4 Edgware Jewish Primary School entered the maintained sector in January 2011, increasing the number of places available to Barnet's Jewish community. Jewish provision will be further increased as part of the free schools programme, with Jewish primary school Etz Chaim as one of the first wave of free schools in the country.
- 15.7.5 East Barnet Secondary School, designed with community use in mind, opened in September 2010 with state of the art science and ICT facilities and two Multi Use Games Areas. The new parent promoted Jewish Community Secondary School (JCOSS) also opened in September 2010, offering a unique, inclusive Jewish education to Barnet's large Jewish community.
- 15.7.6 We will continue to identify opportunities to improve the condition of secondary schools in Barnet and to provide sufficient school places. All new primary and secondary schools will be designed with community use in mind. New and refurbished schools will provide modern learning environments making full use of ICT, and buildings will meet strict sustainable design criteria.
- 15.7.7 Barnet has a uniquely diverse range of schools with high numbers of Church of England, Catholic and Jewish schools, as well as several single sex and selective secondary schools. Meeting parental choice for particular types of school remains a priority. We welcome approaches from schools within the independent sector that want to join the maintained sector, or from groups wishing to set up a 'Free School', where parental demand is proven and the school provides premises that conform with basic school requirements as set out in relevant guidance from the Department for Education (DfE).⁴²
- 15.7.8 We are supportive of Barnet schools that want to convert to academy status.
- 15.7.9 In addressing educational needs within Barnet and responding to the need for parental choice we will through the Site Allocations DPD seek to allocate sites for development that are capable of providing new school premises including parent promoted schools that meet the requirements set out in DfE guidance.

⁴² Building Bulletin 99 – Briefing Framework for Primary School Projects and Building Bulletin 98 – Briefing Framework for Secondary School Projects or their replacements.

- 15.7.10 Children's Centres provide a range of services including childcare, access to jobs and training, health care advice and parenting support. Barnet is rationalising and targeting current provision; reducing the focus on specific buildings, increasing the amount of outreach work, and ensuring delivery of services across a network of children's centres and outreach venues according to local need and targeted need. There are 13 full Children's Centres, with outreach provision in a further eight centres, many of which are co-located in a range of services including schools and libraries.
- 15.7.11 Other facilities for young people include multi-agency drop in centres. Existing provision in Barnet includes centres at Woodhouse Road in North Finchley, and at Canada Villa in Hendon. For future provision of youth facilities, the emphasis will be on ensuring services are targeted at those most in need of support, and enabling community groups and the voluntary sector to build capacity around providing a range of positive activities across the borough from a wide range of locations. There is a strong emphasis on involving young people in the commissioning of youth services to ensure that provision is well placed and meets demand

15.8 Provision for older people

- 15.8.1 In line with national trends Barnet faces an increase in the numbers of older people. The borough has the second highest number of people over 65 in London. Future generations of older people have different expectations and aspirations. Life expectancy has been increasing over some time and there are increasing numbers of older people living at home with long term conditions, and also dementia. We will need to retain a small number of buildings providing day services to support those people with high dependency needs to continue to live successfully in the community. For others however we are working on alternative models that promote choice and well being that will meet the needs and aspirations of the new cohort of older people.

15.9 Provision for communities

- 15.9.1 Barnet is the 2nd most religiously diverse and 16th most ethnically diverse borough in Britain. Residents have a shared sense of belonging to Barnet, four residents in five consider that the borough is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together. As Barnet grows it will become more representative of London as a global city attracting younger and more ethnically diverse communities. It is imperative that as this change occurs these new communities are socially integrated and established communities do not become polarised.
- 15.9.2 Community cohesion needs to be measured across Barnet but there is a need to focus on the growth areas and the places that surround them. Such a focus should provide us with a better understanding of the borough's communities and the choices that they make.
- 15.9.3 We recognise that for many community groups it has proved difficult to maintain or extend existing buildings due to obsolescence, site constraints or the high value of land in the borough together with an inability to mitigate their impact on the local area. This has led to some people having to travel outside the borough to meet and pursue community or faith related activities.
- 15.9.4 We will support multi-purpose community facilities that make efficient use of premises providing a range of services at one accessible and inclusive location. We are currently examining the space needs, both current and future, of community groups in Barnet to better understand existing provision and to be able to plan for them in the future.
- 15.9.5 When new developments result in an increased demand for community spaces they will also be expected to make commensurate provision for new, or improvements to existing facilities. This will help to meet the needs of new residents and mitigate impacts on the existing community.
- 15.9.6 Community facilities can provide a range of services in one location. Grouping such facilities together allows more services to be provided in a single place. As part of a one public sector approach we are working with partners to integrate services and through

inclusive design make efficient use of premises. This will enable residents to access advice and assistance in the most convenient way.

- 15.9.7 The issue of providing burial spaces for London and addressing the needs of its diverse communities is a complex one which simply cannot be addressed by a borough acting alone. Although there are eight cemeteries in Barnet, four of these are owned by other local authorities for their residents. Hendon Cemetery provides the main source of non-denominational burial space for residents. The remaining three cemeteries at Edgwarebury Lane, Hoop Lane and New Southgate are privately owned. Therefore only a limited amount of this burial space is available to meet the needs of local residents. The Mayor has established the current situation in London⁴³. The audit found that Barnet had adequate capacity with sufficient new burial space available to meet the estimated demand for virgin space up to 2031.

Policy CS 10 – Enabling Inclusive and Integrated Community Facilities and Uses

The council will work with our partners to ensure that community facilities including schools, libraries, leisure centres and pools, places of worship, arts and cultural facilities, community meeting places and facilities for younger and older people, are provided for Barnet's communities.

We will:

- ensure that our programmes for capital investment in schools and services for young people address the needs of a growing, more diverse and increasingly younger population
- promote the role of schools as 'community hubs', providing a wide range of educational, advice, leisure and support services to children, families and the wider community
- support the enhancement and inclusive design of community facilities ensuring their efficient use, and the provision of multi-purpose community hubs that can provide a range of services to the community at a single accessible location
- expect development that increases the demand for community facilities and services to make appropriate contributions towards new and accessible facilities, particularly within the regeneration and development areas of the borough or improving existing provision, particularly within town centres
- work with the Mayor and cemetery providers to establish current supply of burial space, identify barriers to supply and any necessary changes to planning policy.

In addressing educational needs within Barnet and responding to the need for parental choice we will support proposals for parent promoted schools or 'Free Schools' that:

- Conform with DfE guidance on becoming a new school and
- Meet parental demand for school places and
- Provide educational facilities that conform with basic school requirements as set out in relevant DfE guidance.

Through the Site Allocations DPD we will seek to allocate sites for development that are capable of providing new school premises including parent promoted schools that meet DfE requirements.

Key References

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Audit of London burial provision, Cemetery Research Group – March 2011 ➤ Barnet's Big Society is on your Doorstep – | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Building Bulletin 98 – Briefing Framework for Secondary School Projects, DfE ➤ Building Bulletin 99 – Briefing Framework for Primary School Projects, DfE |
|--|--|

⁴³ Cemetery Research Group – An audit of London Burial Provision, March 2011.

An analysis of local voluntary and community organisations, CommUNITY Barnet 2010.

- Brent Cross, Cricklewood and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework, 2005
- Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Mill Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009
- Sport, Physical Activity & Physical Education Strategy, LB Barnet , 2008 -2013

16 Improving health and well-being

16.1 Introduction

- 16.1.1 An important aspect of the quality of life of the suburb is the contribution to healthier sustainable environments and neighbourhoods. All strands of the Three Strands Approach to planning, development and regeneration capture the interdependence of protecting open spaces for leisure and recreation uses, enhancing the best of the suburbs which present healthy, safe and accessible neighbourhoods, and growth that provides quality and sustainable regeneration.
- 16.1.2 Understanding our population is the first step to being able to improve health and well-being and promote healthy choices for individuals to make healthy choices to lead healthy lives. This is a cross cutting theme for the Core Strategy.
- 16.1.3 Within health and social care the intention is to shift the focus away from intensive and institutionalised care such as residential care homes towards an earlier and better targeted allocation of services, preventing or delaying the onset of ill health, re-ablement and the promotion of ageing well and enabling well-being. Spatial planning can address unhealthy lifestyles, such as being overweight, obesity, particularly in children, through the provision of accessible parks, allotments, open spaces, leisure facilities and an attractive and safe public realm which encourages walking, cycling and socialising. Links between health and the opportunities for physical activity are made in sections on open spaces. Health and well-being is a cross cutting theme as illustrated by Table 2 on the linkages between the Core Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 16.1.4 The level of growth in the acute health sector in recent years now needs to be reversed. The effect of the increase in acute spend is one of the key reasons for the financial challenges faced by NHS Barnet and if not reversed will result in the PCT not being able to maintain expenditure in other areas, rather than increase investment as required to deliver health benefits for Barnet residents. The NHS also have to ensure that they obtain value for money from all commissioned services and that they decommission services where effectiveness or efficacy of services is not demonstrated.

Implications of the 2011 Health and Social Care Bill

The January 2011 Health and Social Care Bill sets out that Primary Care Trusts (PCT) will be abolished in 2013 and their health care commissioning function will be replaced by groups of GPs who will be responsible for the use of the majority of the NHS Budget.

PCT public health responsibilities for local health improvement will transfer to councils.

Councils will lead on promoting integration and partnership working between the NHS, social care, public health and other local services and strategies

Health and well-being boards will be created to integrate commissioning of local NHS services, social care and health improvement.

- 16.1.5 The publication of the Health and Social Care Bill in January 2011 sets out reforms to the NHS that have the potential to create an environment for local solutions to emerge for local health and care challenges. Future decisions on health service reconfiguration will be made by NHS North Central London acting on behalf of current PCTs in Barnet, Camden, Enfield Haringey and Islington in consultation with the emerging GP commissioning consortium and residents.
- 16.1.6 Barnet's Primary and Community Services Commissioning Strategy (published in January 2010) sets out how NHS Barnet (the Primary Care Trust (PCT)), with partners will use the resources available to ensure that primary care and community services respond to

changes in population need, in the economic climate, and in national health policy in order to provide high quality, sustainable healthcare that meets population needs and delivers improved health and well-being in settings as close to home as possible.

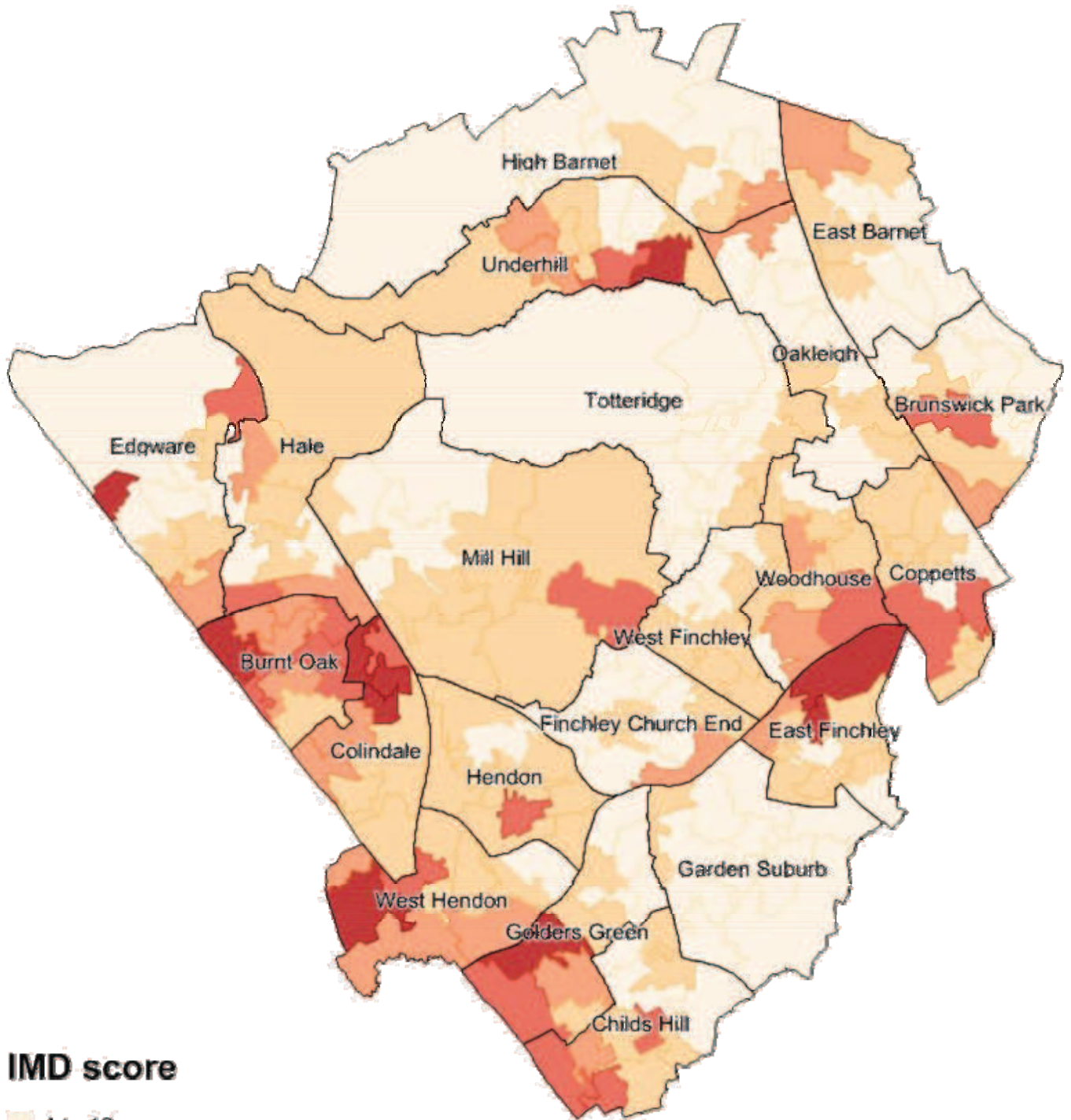
- 16.1.7 Improving health and well-being requires more than improving access to a GP surgery. There is an important link between the environment in which we live and how healthy we are, both physically and mentally. One of the key aims of the Sustainable Community Strategy is to create a health supporting environment by working together to identify and address the factors underpinning health inequalities in Barnet. This includes ensuring that new developments provide for a quality of life that facilitates healthier lifestyles.
- 16.1.8 Barnet's Health and Well-being Commissioning Framework guides how public agencies in Barnet will work with providers to plan and shape services to improve the health and well-being of adults in the borough and help people remain independent. This includes targeting of universal health and other services to meet prioritised needs and aspirations, particularly for the most vulnerable groups. The framework specifically sets out the vision, objectives and desired outcomes for improving the health and well-being of adults in Barnet and the commissioning standards for services working to deliver these. It also sets out a work programme for the Adult Strategy Group (ASG), the core commissioning group for adult health and well-being.
- 16.1.9 Aligned with the Health and Well-being Commissioning Framework our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Health and Social Care provides a basis for how we can enable people to live healthy lifestyles while at the same time continue to promote independence, choice and control for vulnerable people and their carers.

16.2 Addressing poor health and health inequalities

- 16.2.1 Coronary heart disease, stroke, cancers and respiratory disease are the biggest causes of premature death in Barnet, although rates are lower than for England as a whole. We believe that in Barnet agencies such as the council, NHS Barnet and the GP commissioning consortium should work alongside individuals and the wider community to support them to adopt and maintain healthy lifestyles. The JSNA helps us understand the needs of local people so that information can be tailored to encourage them to change behaviour such as stopping smoking, taking up exercise, eating and drinking sensibly and accessing cancer screening.
- 16.2.2 Obese adults are at a greater risk of premature death and are more likely to suffer from conditions such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, stroke, cancer and respiratory disorders. Obesity is becoming an increasing problem in Barnet and, as a lifestyle choice, is second only to smoking as a significant avoidable risk factor for poor health and premature death. NHS Barnet⁴⁴ estimates that there are over 100,000 overweight adults, over 50,000 obese adults and just over 4,000 morbidly obese adults living in Barnet. Approximately 14,000 residents of Barnet have been diagnosed with diabetes, however it is thought the actual number of sufferers is likely to be much higher.
- 16.2.3 Health inequalities exist in Barnet spatially and by gender. Men in affluent wards such as Hampstead Garden Suburb have an average life expectancy which is up to seven years longer than their counterparts in Colindale. For women the largest difference is five years between Hampstead Garden Suburb and more deprived West Finchley.
- 16.2.4 Map 16 shows the distribution of deprivation in Barnet. Those living in the most deprived areas experience high death rates from cardiovascular disease (CVD), cancers and respiratory diseases; have a higher prevalence of diabetes, mental health problems and a range of other chronic diseases. The fall in overall death rates from cancer in our most deprived electoral wards (-8%) has not been as marked as that in the more affluent wards (-32%). However death rates from coronary heart disease (CHD) for people living in the

⁴⁴ NHS Barnet - Commissioning Strategic Plan 2009 – 2014/15 January 2010

seven most deprived wards have decreased and are now closer to those of people living



IMD score

- 4 to 12
- 12 to 20
- 20 to 27
- 27 to 35
- > 35

Source: IMD 2010

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in the more affluent parts of Barnet.

Map 16 – Deprivation in Barnet

- 16.2.5 'Finding the 5000' is an initiative between the council and NHS Barnet to reduce morbidity and mortality from CVD by identification of people with modifiable risk factors for coronary heart disease and stroke who do not normally go to their GP surgery. Through the screening of 20% of Barnet's population it will target people in the most deprived areas of Barnet.
- 16.2.6 In order to improve health and address health inequalities strategic applications are required by the London Plan (Policy 3.2 – Improving Health and Addressing Health Inequalities) to submit Health Impact Assessments⁴⁵

16.3 Clinical care

- 16.3.1 The health of Barnet's population is generally better than the UK average but the public is concerned that there are too few GPs and that local hospitals do not provide sufficiently high standards of care. Primary care is defined as the provision of basic healthcare where a person first makes contact with the health service outside of hospital. Community healthcare is defined as any healthcare that could take place outside of an acute hospital.
- 16.3.2 Primary care provision in Barnet currently consists of: 68 GP practices; 76 dental practices; 81 optometry outlets; and 77 community pharmacies. Primary care is based on a GP-led model. GPs are central to the co-ordination and delivery of patient care and aspects of health improvement, it is important to use other providers in care provision to increase GP capacity for more complex work, improve continuity of care across providers and ensure limited funds are used to best effect.
- 16.3.3 NHS Barnet is developing a clinical infrastructure model that responds to clinical needs and the future vision for Primary and Community Services across Barnet. This model will review the condition; location and capacity of NHS Barnet's existing clinical accommodation and incorporate a gap analysis of the existing clinical infrastructure against future requirements.
- 16.3.4 The Barnet primary and community care service model is based on a continuum of care from promoting health and well-being, through self-care and non-complex to complex care. It is expected that people will move between these levels at different times of their life, and we want primary and community services to focus on keeping individuals as healthy as possible for as long as possible, and to return them to good health where possible, following periods of higher level care. All levels of care can be provided in a primary and community care setting, with services only provided in hospital where the level of complexity, or the ability to achieve economies of scale, means that a hospital setting is the most effective place for provision of that care.
- 16.3.5 Commissioning of acute and specialist hospital services is now undertaken for all North Central London PCTs by NHS Central London which, in the transition to the abolition of PCTs and the introduction of 'full' GP consortium commissioning will also provide strategic direction and senior management oversight for the remaining 'borough presence' of the PCTs.
- 16.3.6 NHS Barnet has developed a strategy for services to meet the needs of the borough within the context of NHS London's health strategy: A Framework for Action. The Barnet Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy - Your Health Your Future: Safer Closer Better, 2007 sets out the local vision for change in the way healthcare is delivered to patients in these three boroughs. The Clinical Strategy states that :
- people should be helped to remain healthy and independent, have real choices and greater access in both health and social care; and

⁴⁵ Mayor of London Best Practice Guidance Note on Health Issues in Planning, 2007

- services should be integrated, built around the needs of individuals, promoting independence and choice.
- 16.3.7 NHS Barnet has developed a new hub and spoke model to deliver primary and community care services which considers planning and delivering health services in settings that include the patient's own home, GP practices and community hospitals and primary care centres.
- 16.3.8 In Barnet, the proposed system builds on the 'hubs' at the two community hospitals at Edgware (which opened in 2005) and Finchley Memorial (new hospital on this site which is programmed to open in 2013). In addition the Vale Drive Health Centre is expected to become a hub. The current use of Vale Drive will be reviewed to ensure it is used to full effect. Hubs will also be supported by federated spokes that include GPs, pharmacists, dentists and optometrists in three GP localities (north, west and east) serving the whole borough as part of the future borough-wide GP consortium..
- 16.3.9 The hubs are not of equal size, nor do they provide the exact same range of services. In planning for the size and shape of the hubs the intention is to
- focus on the shift of care to locations closer to patients' homes, to provide specialist care provided in centralised sites, and to separate emergency and planned care
 - plan services around population size, volume and throughput necessary to maintain clinical safety and outcomes, and integrated care pathways taking account of existing infrastructure and estates so that these can be best utilised to deliver new models of provision
 - have an overriding principle to 'localise where possible and specialise where necessary'
- 16.3.10 The quality of the remaining primary care estate varies from purpose built, modern premises to the ground floor of a semi-detached house. Since 2006, many practices have improved their DDA compliance through work undertaken as part of a PCT wide initiative. However, genuine equality of access for those with disabilities still remains poor in some practices.
- 16.3.11 Our three biggest providers of acute and mental healthcare are: Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust; the Royal Free Hampstead NHS Trust and Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health NHS Trust. A significant number of Barnet residents also use services provided by University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. We envisage a reduction of beds and capacity in our main hospitals and a renewed focus for these Trusts on delivering specialist care

16.4 Residential care homes

- 16.4.1 We have a number of commissioning strategies for social care which are subject to regular renewal. Adult Social Services can advise on the current commissioning approach. These strategies envisage an increasing amount of care taking place at home in order to promote independence and activity.
- 16.4.2 Barnet has a good record on helping people to live independently. On the basis of current and projected needs future services will have to be more flexible, diverse and tailored to the needs of individuals. Helping people stay at home for as long as they want to will require a fundamental shift away from the focus on treating the results of ill-health towards the promotion of health and the wider well-being agenda. The number of places required in residential care homes will fall, and the volume of services delivered locally will rise.
- 16.4.3 Barnet has an oversupply of residential care homes. Our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment shows that while Barnet has been successful in reducing the rate of admission to residential care, the numbers of people living in this type of accommodation remains relatively high within our local authority comparator group. NHS Barnet and the council's Adult Social Services have concerns about overprovision and the associated costs for non-local need. We will therefore encourage the remodelling of such facilities as

other forms of provision for older people such as extra care housing. Extra care housing is seen as a viable alternative in many cases to residential care, allowing residents more independence whilst encouraging community and activities.

- 16.4.4 Residential and nursing homes in Barnet may register places for the care of older people who have dementia and places for people who require nursing care. Places for people who require neither type of specialist care are known as 'mainstream places'. The current supply of mainstream residential places in Barnet exceeds placements made by the council. The oversupply of mainstream places is a national issue. The care home market in Barnet consists of 102 registered residential homes and 21 registered nursing homes. Together they provide capacity for over 3,000 people, with the majority of places designed for older people. The effect of this additional supply is to increase the potential of cross border purchasing from outside Barnet. This will place a greater burden on NHS Barnet and our budget.
- 16.4.5 Commissioning residential care placements is now more focused on providing places for people with dementia as demand has not decreased. However, it is considered that sufficient capacity will be achieved through existing homes. Although the demand for nursing home places is constant current supply is sufficient to meet demand.
- 16.4.6 Overall the numbers of people with impairment and deficiency will increase over the next 20 years. The policy directives for the NHS to 'shift care closer to home' is aimed to provide more choice and flexibility in how health care needs are met. These changes will place significant pressures on social care systems as more people are treated in the community.
- 16.4.7 In order to help residents live healthy and independent lives Adult Social Services provides home and community support. Nearly 40% of users with a care package receive some sort of homecare (including outreach and homecare elements of supported living and extra care). Barnet's enablement homecare service has been running since March 2009, and is a more focused and intensive way of delivering personal care in the home. Older adults account for over 80% of homecare clients with younger adults with physical disabilities a further 13%.

Policy CS 11 – Improving health and well being in Barnet

We will improve health and well-being in Barnet by:

- supporting the plans of NHS Barnet and from 2013 its successor bodies (including GP Consortiums) to deliver modern primary and community care and to commission other health care services
- working with partners on projects which enable us to progress better service integration, locating services where access can be improved, particularly for vulnerable groups
- supporting the plans of the Health and Well Being Board to integrate commissioning of local NHS services, social care and health improvement
- supporting healthier neighbourhoods through targeting of unhealthy lifestyles such as smoking and those which cause obesity and addressing health inequalities in terms of ill health and access to health facilities as identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- supporting the remodelling of residential care homes to other forms of special accommodation in order to widen housing choice, support healthy and independent lives and to reduce over supply
- ensuring that vulnerable residents benefit from housing choice and that additional residential care home provision is only supported when evidence of local need can be demonstrated and that the proposal addresses the priorities of NHS Barnet, or its successor bodies, and the council's Adult Social Services
- ensuring increased access to Barnet's green spaces and opportunities for higher levels of physical activity through the Green Infrastructure SPD.

Key References

- Annual Residents Survey 2008
- Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Clinical Strategy, 2007
- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy – 2010 – 2020
- Commissioning Strategic Plan 2009/10 – 2014/15, NHS Barnet, 2010
- Health and Social Care Bill, January 2011
- Health and Well Being Commissioning Framework
- Health White Paper - Equity and Excellence – Liberating the NHS.
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Health and Social Care
- Mayor of London Best Practice Guidance Note on Health Issues in Planning, 2007
- NHS London – A Framework for Action, 2007
- Older Peoples Commissioning Strategy, LB Barnet
- Primary and Community Services Commissioning Strategy, NHS Barnet, 2010
- State of the Borough Report

17 Making Barnet a safer place

- 17.1.1 Despite Barnet being amongst the safest boroughs in London, crime and anti-social behaviour are a key concern of local residents. The Sustainable Community Strategy highlights that the level of crime is the most important issue affecting residents quality of life. Barnet's growth presents several challenges for community safety and cohesiveness. Young people have identified crime as the most important issue affecting them. People aged 14 to 16 in Barnet are 10 times more likely to be a victim of street robbery than a person in their 30s. As Barnet's population is forecast to become younger there are increased risks of young people being victims as well as perpetrators of crime.
- 17.1.2 Understanding how we can create safer environments through regeneration and development opportunities is key to the 'place-shaping' agenda. The creation of new communities in regeneration areas could pose significant challenges to cohesion. As Barnet grows there is a need to better understand how change is taking place geographically and demographically. There is a noticeable trend that the west of the borough is getting younger while the east gets older.
- 17.1.3 With increased diversity and population mobility it is important that new communities integrate cohesively with settled ones and that hate crime does not increase, and that it is reported and tackled effectively when it does happen.
- 17.1.4 With more visitors and greater activity in Barnet's vibrant town centres the opportunities for alcohol related disorder could increase. At present most alcohol related disorders occur at the weekends and are evenly distributed across the borough, although North Finchley is the main hotspot.
- 17.1.5 Through our 21 Safer Neighbourhood teams, the Children and Young People's Partnership Board and other forms of community engagement we are developing our understanding of how people experience crime and what drives their fears of becoming a victim. This includes focusing on why residents feel less safe in Barnet's town centres.
- 17.1.6 The planning system plays an important part in reducing the opportunity for crime and disorder and making places safer. Well planned, mixed use areas, good quality public realm, carefully designed buildings, open spaces and neighbourhoods can "design out" crime and help to reduce the fear of crime. We expect development proposals to reflect guidance in the publication Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention (2004) and the principles of Secured by Design the official UK Police flagship initiative for 'designing out crime'. We will seek to ensure that any new transport interchanges are designed to help address personal safety and reflect Secured by Design principles.
- 17.1.7 As the borough grows, new neighbourhoods emerge and existing suburban and town centres change, sensitive planning of uses, activities and open spaces can help improve community safety. Greater collaboration with the Metropolitan Police and Barnet Safer Communities Partnerships inputting to the spatial planning of these areas will enhance safer neighbourhoods. More detail on the approach we will take to make Barnet safer is provided in the Development Management Policies DPD.
- 17.1.8 The Metropolitan Police Authority published its Asset Management Plan in 2007 which set out how they will improve the management of their stations, offices, safer neighbourhood bases and custody centres in Barnet. Proposals in the 2007 document included a new strategically located custody centre rather than in existing police stations, as well as a new patrol base in a single warehouse-style building providing accommodation of operational police officers and their vehicles. The document suggests a move towards more local 'front counter' facilities and neighbourhood policing team bases across the borough to provide enhanced accessibility. We support the aim of neighbourhood policing teams to make neighbourhoods safer places to live in, work in and visit and will work with the Borough Commander to refresh this document and provide modern, accessible and customer friendly facilities in the right locations in Barnet.

17.1.9 Barnet’s Infrastructure Delivery Plan identifies courts as social infrastructure providing police and justice functions. Her Majesty’s Court Service (HMCS) operates the Barnet Civil and Family Court in Finchley Church End and Hendon Magistrate’s Court. We will work with HMCS as it reviews its estate in Barnet.

Policy CS 12 - Making Barnet a safer place

We will aim to make Barnet a safer place. It is important that we ensure through the management of growth that Barnet is a place where people from different communities get on together. We will:

- work with our partners to tackle crime, fear of crime and anti-social behaviour;
- work with the Metropolitan Police to provide re-modelling of its estate as a basis for an effective and responsive police service in Barnet;
- work with Her Majesty’s Court Service as it reviews its estate to ensure that it best meets needs for modern court facilities;
- support the work of neighbourhood policing teams to make our neighbourhoods safer places to live in, work in and visit;
- encourage appropriate security and community safety measures in buildings, spaces and the transport system;
- require developers to demonstrate that they have incorporated design principles which contribute to community safety and security in all new development;
- ensure that through the town centre strategy programme we promote safer and more secure town centre environments; and
- promote safer streets and public areas including open spaces.

Key References

- Annual Residents Survey 2008
- Asset Management Plan, Metropolitan Police, 2007
- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy – 2010 – 2020
- Barnet Crime, Disorder and Substance Misuse Strategic Assessment, 2010
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Making Barnet Safer - Safer Communities Strategy for Barnet
- Safer Places – the Planning System and Crime Prevention, CLG, 2004

18 Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources

18.1 Introduction

- 18.1.1 Climate change is one of the greatest challenges the world is facing and a key priority for Barnet's future is to reduce the borough's carbon footprint where possible particularly in new development. Reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, adapting to future climate change, ensuring resource use is kept within sustainable levels, promoting biodiversity and improving quality of life are all key issues for Barnet. We recognise the need to urgently reduce our carbon dioxide emissions to sustainable and equitable levels in line with national energy and climate change targets and that this challenge has to be addressed through behaviour change by public services, citizens and businesses.
- 18.1.2 National planning policy on climate change and flooding is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (paras 93 to 104).
- 18.1.3 The Mayor's vision for London is that it should excel among global cities – expanding opportunities for all its people and enterprises, achieving the highest standards and quality of life and leading the world in tackling the urban challenges of the 21st century, particularly that of climate change,.
- 18.1.4 In meeting the challenges of the London Plan we have to ensure that our first priority is to use less energy (be lean), secondly to supply energy more efficiently (be clean) and thirdly to use renewable energy (be green). This is the Mayor's energy hierarchy. Energy demand can be reduced through adopting sustainable design principles. Energy can be supplied more efficiently by prioritising decentralised energy.
- 18.1.5 Barnet's Sustainable Community Strategy highlights that we have one of the largest carbon footprints per head of population in London. The Sustainable Community Strategy recognises that Barnet's growth must be managed so that it meets our needs for home, jobs and services in a way that conserves and enhances the character of the area.
- 18.1.6 Reducing our environmental impact whilst supporting growth is a major challenge. In meeting that challenge and demonstrating local leadership we have taken several steps
- 18.1.7 Barnet's Environmental Policy – A Greener City-Suburb 2008/09 – 2011/12 provides local leadership in reducing emissions of CO₂ and reducing waste.

18.2 Carbon Emissions Reduction Action Plan

- 18.2.1 We are working closely with the Energy Saving Trust to reduce our carbon emissions and through a Carbon Emissions Reduction Action Plan (February 2009) are working to reduce energy use across all local authority energy related activities. Key objectives of the action plan are to promote sustainable energy use by the community and to raise awareness and encourage action on climate change amongst residents, businesses and staff.

18.3 Barnet's Waste Prevention Strategy

- 18.3.1 Barnet's Waste Prevention Strategy 2005 - 2020 sets out that the best way to deal with waste is to prevent it. The Strategy highlights the need to share responsibility for our waste and change our behaviour. Policy CS14 – Dealing with our waste sets out how we will encourage sustainable waste management.

18.4 Sustainable design and construction

- 18.4.1 It is likely that we are faced with warmer, wetter winters and hotter, drier summers. Sustainable design and construction seeks to improve the environmental performance of buildings and make them fit for present and future climates. There is a wide range of

measures which developers can incorporate to make their developments more sustainable for example the use of passive solar design, natural ventilation, green and brown roofs, sustainable drainage systems and rainwater systems. Our Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Sustainable Design and Construction sets out our requirements for environmental design and construction management. The SPD sets out requirements on air, noise, water and habitat quality in order to achieve protection and enhancement of the environment. It also sets out requirements on energy, water, waste and materials in order to achieve the prudent use of natural resources. The SPD requirements are linked to existing national standards and guidance and will be updated in line with emerging opportunities and future developments. The SPD sets out the areas where Barnet needs to go further and faster, whilst providing a complementary relationship between the Local Plan, London Plan and the Building Regulations / Code for Sustainable Homes.

- 18.4.2 The Core Strategy can influence future development in the borough to make the fullest contribution to the mitigation of, and adaptation, to climate change. It can also help to reduce flood risk as well as the incidence of fuel poverty with more fuel efficient dwellings. Through adopting sustainable design and construction measures as well as prioritising decentralised energy generation carbon dioxide emissions can be minimised.

18.5 Reducing carbon emissions in new and existing development

- 18.5.1 New development provides the opportunity to deliver modern homes which meet the highest standards of energy efficiency currently available and helps to minimise carbon emissions.
- 18.5.2 There is also a role for the Core Strategy in addressing the level of emissions from the existing building stock and pattern of development. The retention and reuse of heritage assets avoids the material and energy costs of new development. Creative adaptation can dramatically reduce the whole-life energy costs and waste impacts that would result from demolition and replacement, even where the proposed development would in itself be of an acceptable standard in terms of energy performance. Where the ongoing energy performance of a building is unsatisfactory, there will almost always be some scope for suitable adaptations to be made without harm to the asset's significance. This will involve careful consideration of the most appropriate options for insulation, power use and power generation. Intrusive interventions, such as micro generation technology, can harm the significance of a heritage asset and local character.
- 18.5.3 We will support home owners and developers to find solutions that minimise or avoid harm to a heritage asset's significance while delivering improved energy performance or generation. Detailed advice on how heritage assets can be adapted to new technologies or materials without harming their significance is available from English Heritage.

18.6 Code for Sustainable Homes

- 18.6.1 The Code for Sustainable Homes sets out standards for the sustainability of new housing development. Minimum levels of the six stage Code are scheduled to become mandatory for new homes under future changes to the building regulations. Code Level 3 is equivalent to a 25% reduction in carbon emissions. Through high standards of design and build quality this can be achieved without the use of renewable energy. The sustainability of commercial and community buildings is classified by BREEAM standards. The SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction sets levels for the Code and for BREEAM.

18.7 Combined heat and power

- 18.7.1 Combined heat and power (CHP) and combined cooling heat and power (CCHP) can be a more sustainable and efficient means of supplying heat and power than traditional energy supply systems. Barnet has explored opportunities for the use of these technologies in the major regeneration and development areas, and this is exemplified in the Area Action Plans of Colindale and Mill Hill East. In other major areas of mixed use growth (including town centres) we will promote strategic sustainable energy infrastructure and work with

developers to identify land and access for CHP / CCHP plant and district heating connections where appropriate.

- 18.7.2 As part of the Decentralised Energy Masterplanning initiative a Londonwide programme of support, led by the LDA a Heat Map for Barnet has been produced to match heat sources with heat users. This helps to identify opportunities for decentralised energy both within and cross-borough. This Heat Map provides a basis for identifying the locations where we can prioritise the development of decentralised energy networks in relation to existing and future development. Five focus areas were identified in the Heat Map as having potential for district heating networks :
- Brent Cross Cricklewood
 - Colindale
 - Chipping Barnet
 - Mill Hill East and
 - North Finchley to Whetstone.
- 18.7.3 Brent Cross / Cricklewood and Colindale are identified as high priority areas given the scale of regeneration taking place. Chipping Barnet, Mill Hill East, North Finchley and Whetstone are identified as lower priority areas in the study.
- 18.7.4 More detailed policy to encourage Decentralised Energy networks, including a requirement to support heat networks through physical or financial contributions is covered by Policy DM04 – Environmental Considerations for Development.

18.8 Barnet's existing housing stock

- 18.8.1 Nearly two thirds of Barnet's housing stock was built before 1944 (compared to a national figure of 40%). To better understand the condition of the existing private housing stock in Barnet we have used the Building Research Establishment Housing Stock Model. The Model will provide an estimate of properties with poor insulation as highlighted by the SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating. SAP is the Government's recommended system for energy rating of dwellings and is based on the annual energy costs for space and water heating.
- 18.8.2 The Model relates the condition of a dwelling to the characteristics of the local area and provides estimates for private sector housing for dwellings failing the Decent Homes Standard in Barnet and the reasons why. It highlighted that 22,000 properties in the private sector had inadequate thermal comfort and over 14,000 properties had a SAP rating of less than 35. The BRE Model showed that households in the west of the Borough were more likely to fail the Decent Homes Standard and be occupied by a vulnerable person.
- 18.8.3 We recognise that the wider housing stock in the borough has a relatively high level of carbon emissions compared to the London average, and we have operated a private sector decent homes programme targeted at vulnerable households, which has seen homes provided with measures to reduce fuel poverty, such as insulation, and improvements to heating systems. We will continue to target the resources available to us at the most vulnerable households in the private sector. We recognise that doing more than encouraging self sufficient private owners to invest in energy efficiency measures to their homes is a challenge that needs to be tackled in partnership with regional and national government.
- 18.8.4 In order to inform the Colindale Area Action Plan a thermal masterplanning assessment was undertaken to better understand energy demand in particular the seasonal and daily fluctuations in energy use. The assessment highlighted existing buildings in supporting the viability of a district heating and CHP network as a mix of energy demands is required to ensure that the heat produced can be used locally at the time it is produced.
- 18.8.5 With 75% of carbon emissions generated by existing buildings there are opportunities to improve home insulation and provide decentralised energy in order to benefit from new CHP. Policy DM04 – Environmental Considerations for Development sets out how major

developments can help reduce carbon emissions by funding the retrofitting of the older housing stock.

18.9 Renewable energy

- 18.9.1 The sustainable planning of neighbourhoods is strongly linked to how they need, source and use energy.
- 18.9.2 The London Plan (Section 5) contains a suite of policies on climate change adaptation and mitigation. The Mayor seeks to minimise carbon dioxide emissions from new development in accordance with his energy hierarchy of be lean, be clean and be green. The London Plan at Policy 5.2 – Minimising Carbon Dioxide Emissions sets targets that go further than the 2010 Building Regulations for reduction of carbon dioxide from major developments. Barnet's SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction sets out our local requirements for minimising the consumption of non-renewable energy sources. We will implement London Plan policies in conjunction with our SPD.
- 18.9.3 We consider that expectations on renewable energy are changing. We therefore want to capitalise on opportunities to reduce the use of natural resources and to promote sustainable locations for integrated land uses. Our priority is to utilise high quality design delivered through our SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction to ensure efficient use of energy rather than seek an unproven technological fix. Combined Heat and Power could offer the most cost effective way of ensuring major development in Barnet contributes to the Mayor's carbon dioxide reduction targets.

18.10 Choosing sustainable locations for development

- 18.10.1 Measures to reduce the overall carbon footprint of a development are as important as the use of renewable energy. The location of development and the mix of land uses have a significant effect on the amount of natural resources we use for transport and energy for heating and cooling. In order to reduce pressure on our valuable Green Belt sites we encourage proposals that make best use of previously developed land.
- 18.10.2 In considering site allocations we will choose locations in areas of lowest flood risk. Policy CS 3 - Distribution of Growth in Meeting Housing Aspirations aims to make the best use of previously developed land which can be planned at higher densities, mainly in the western part of the borough, and in accessible town centres. These locations are either relatively well-served by public transport or will become better served as a result of planned regeneration and development. These locations will be developed with a mix of uses, encouraging the possibility of living and working in closer proximity, and will include the necessary infrastructure nearby. These areas will therefore offer exemplary sustainable locations and furthermore, will be planned so as to include the highest standards of design and construction, including dealing with waste on site.
- 18.10.3 The greening of the built environment provides a significant contribution to climate change adaptation. Barnet's green areas cover over a third of the borough. Such open spaces contribute to urban cooling and act as Barnet's 'green lungs'. Trees and other green vegetation can act as carbon reservoirs, absorbing and storing carbon over long periods of time. Through the Green Infrastructure SPD we can enhance Barnet's network of green spaces and its contribution to reducing the urban heat island effect. Policy CS7 – Enhancing and Protecting Barnet's Open Spaces sets out our approach to improving the green spaces network.

18.11 Air and noise pollution

- 18.11.1 Levels of noise and air pollution have a major bearing on the health and well being of all Barnet residents. The majority of Barnet's housing growth will take place in areas that already suffer from air and noise pollution. The design of the built environment has an important role in managing the degree to which people are exposed to pollution. Within Barnet emissions from traffic have the most severe and pervasive impact on air quality.

- 18.11.2 The whole borough is an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). An Air Quality Action Plan has been developed to improve air quality and is updated each year. We will take into account the impact on air quality when assessing development proposals. Regard will be paid to the Air Quality Action Plan and to Cleaning London's Air: The Mayor's Air Quality Strategy. Where development could potentially cause significant harm to air quality, an Air Quality Assessment will be required. Further guidance on air quality and when assessments are required is provided in our SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction.
- 18.11.3 Persistent and intermittent noises such as those made by industrial activities, transport, construction and congregations of people can undermine quality of life. We will take into account noise considerations when assessing development proposals. Regard will be made to the Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy as a reference source for understanding noise and identifying best practice. We will require Noise Impact Assessments for developments likely to generate or be exposed to significant noise. Further guidance on noise quality and when assessments will be required is provided in our SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction.

18.12 Flooding and water management

- 18.12.1 One of the major impacts of climate change will be to increase risk of flooding from watercourses (known as fluvial flooding) and sewers (known as surface water flooding). The risk based Sequential Test as set out in the NPPF (paras 100 to 104) should be applied at all stages of planning. Its aim is to steer new development to areas with the lowest probability of flooding. Barnet has 14kms of streams and brooks and the North London Strategic Flood Risk Assessment identified fluvial flooding from Dollis Brook, Silk Stream, Pymmes Brook and their associated tributaries as the primary source of flood risk in the borough. Surface water flooding in Barnet presents a low to moderate risk to the borough while sewer flooding is also noted for being low risk. Groundwater flooding was found to be a relatively low risk due to the impermeable geology (primarily London Clay) and depth of the groundwater table.
- 18.12.2 The Pitt Review recommended that the Environment Agency, supported by local authorities and water companies should urgently identify the areas that are at highest risk from surface water flooding. In 2009 the Environment Agency published maps highlighting those areas where a more detailed study of surface water flooding may be appropriate within strategic flood risk assessments and Surface Water Management Plans (SWMPs).
- 18.12.3 In August 2009 the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) estimated that 10,800 properties in Barnet are at risk of surface water flooding due to severe rainfall. According to DEFRA Barnet is the 25th most susceptible local authority to surface water flooding.
- 18.12.4 We have full responsibility for managing flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses, helps safeguard community groups from unaffordable rises in surface water drainage charges and protects water supplies to the consumer. The Act implements the Pitt Review following the 2007 floods.
- 18.12.5 We form part of the Drain London Forum, a partnership including London boroughs, the Environment Agency and the Mayor of London which ensures that the requirements from the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 to produce a SWMP are met. The SWMP includes the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment and a Flood Risk Management Plan which will help us to investigate (by 2015) and address flood risk problems and maintain a public register of Flood Risk Management assets. The output from these assessments should help to inform development allocations within the Site Allocations DPD and outline the requirements for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments (FRAs) to be carried out by developers.

- 18.12.6 We are also required to establish a Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) Approving Body (the “SAB”) for the approval of proposed drainage systems in new developments and redevelopments, subject to exemptions and thresholds. In order to be approved, the proposed drainage system would have to meet new national standards for sustainable drainage. The SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction provides guidance on the use of SUDS to enable better control of water during periods of peak rainfall.
- 18.12.7 The Act requires the Secretary of State to issue guidance about how authorities are to discharge their duties under the Act.

18.13 Water Quality and Supply

- 18.13.1 Barnet’s main water courses are of fair to poor chemical quality according to assessments carried out by the Environment Agency. Maintaining the quality of water, especially groundwater, is important in ensuring the borough’s population has a good quality domestic water supply. Water pollution can also affect the supply of water for leisure, industrial and agricultural uses and have a harmful impact upon riverside habitats. We will work with the Environment Agency to restrict development which may threaten the quality of either ground or surface water.
- 18.13.2 Water is a precious resource and it is essential that new development seeks to be efficient in using water, seeking wherever possible to reduce consumption. This can be achieved through grey water systems and rainwater harvesting. Further details on recommended technologies are set out in the SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction.

Policy CS 13 - Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources

We will seek to minimise Barnet’s contribution to climate change and ensure that through the efficient use of natural resources the borough develops in a way which respects environmental limits and improves quality of life.

- We will promote the highest environmental standards for development and through our SPDs on Sustainable Design and Construction and Green Infrastructure we will continue working to deliver exemplary levels of sustainability throughout Barnet in order to mitigate and adapt to the effects of a changing climate
- We will expect all development to be energy-efficient and seek to minimise any wasted heat or power.
- In line with London Plan Policy 5.2 – Minimising Carbon Dioxide Emissions we will expect major development in accordance with the Mayor’s energy hierarchy to reduce carbon dioxide emissions beyond the 2010 Building Regulations.
- We will maximise opportunities for implementing new district-wide networks supplied by decentralised energy (including renewable generation) in partnership with key stakeholders in areas of major mixed use growth including town centres. Where feasible we will expect all development to contribute to new and existing frameworks
- We will support solutions that minimise or avoid harm to a heritage asset’s significance while delivering improved energy performance or generation.
- We will make Barnet a water efficient borough and minimise the potential for fluvial and surface flooding by ensuring development does not cause harm to the water environment, water quality and drainage systems. Development should utilise Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) in order to reduce surface water run-off and ensure such run-off is managed as close to its source as possible subject to local geology and ground water levels.
- We will improve air and noise quality by requiring Air Quality Assessments and Noise Impact Assessments from development in line with Barnet’s SPD on Sustainable Design and Construction

Key References

- Air Quality Action Plan, LB Barnet
- Barnet Carbon Emissions Action Plan, 2009
- Barnet's Environmental Policy – A Greener City-Suburb, 2008/09 – 2011/12
- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy – 2010 – 2020
- Barnet Waste Prevention Strategy 2005 - 2020, 2005
- Cleaning London's Air – the Mayor's Draft Air Quality Strategy, 2010
- Climate Change and the Historic Environment, English Heritage, 2004
- Decent Home – Definition and guidance for implementation, CLG, 2006
- Drain London
<http://www.london.gov.uk/drain-london>
- Housing Stock Model Update for Barnet, Building Research Establishment, 2009
- London Heat Map Study for Barnet, May 2010
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Pitt Review – Learning Lessons from the 2007 Floods
- Souder City – the Mayor's Ambient Noise Strategy, 2004
- Sustainable Design and Construction, SPD

19 Dealing with our waste

- 19.1.1 Managing the amount of waste we produce is a key component of being environmentally sensitive and growing successfully. We need to find better ways of dealing with our waste and taking more responsibility for dealing with it within London rather than burying it in landfill in places such as Bedfordshire.
- 19.1.2 The Sustainable Community Strategy highlights that although our recycling rates are above average we have one of the largest carbon footprints per head of population in London. We were the first local authority in the country to introduce compulsory recycling in March 2005, and will continue to work to improve services for residents, and engage with them more effectively using improved intelligence and targeted approaches.
- 19.1.3 As part of the proposals for Brent Cross – Cricklewood a rail linked waste handling and recycling facility is proposed on a site adjoining Edgware Road (A5). This will be developed in partnership with the North London Waste Authority who will vacate the existing Hendon Waste Transfer Station, the site of which is required for comprehensive regeneration. It is intended that this facility will include sorting recyclable material and will (subject to feasibility) treat non-recyclable waste to enable it to be converted for a fuel for the Combined Heat and Power facility which also forms part of the proposals for Brent Cross – Cricklewood.
- 19.1.4 The North London Waste Authority (NLWA) and the seven boroughs that are members of it have produced a Joint Waste Strategy which plans for managing the waste collected by the boroughs until 2020. This will be used to facilitate the provision of new waste management facilities and services, to increase recycling and recovery and divert more waste away from going to landfill.
- 19.1.5 The Mayor of London has set in the London Plan a target of working towards managing the equivalent of 100 per cent of London’s waste within London by 2031. This will require new facilities using new technologies that deal with waste as a resource to be developed across London. In the London Plan Barnet has been allocated an apportionment target of 195,000 tonnes of waste per annum in 2011 rising to 251,000 tonnes per annum by 2021. We need to identify sufficient land to provide capacity to deal with this waste target and have joined with six other North London boroughs to produce the North London Waste Plan (NLWP). The NLWP is a Development Plan Document which will form part of Barnet’s Local Plan. It will sit alongside the North London Joint Waste Strategy to secure the sustainable management of waste.

Policy CS 14 – Dealing with our waste

We will encourage sustainable waste management by:

- promoting waste prevention, re-use, recycling, composting and resource efficiency over landfill
- requiring developments to provide waste and recycling facilities which fit current and future collection practices and targets
- designating sites through the NLWP to meet an aggregated apportionment target across the seven North London boroughs. These sites will be the principle locations considered suitable for waste facilities
- safeguarding all existing waste facilities in Barnet including a Waste Management Facility in the Brent Cross - Cricklewood Regeneration Area.

Key References

- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy – 2010 – 2020
- Barnet Waste Prevention Strategy 2005 - 2020, 2005
- London Plan, 2011
- North London Joint Waste Strategy, North London Waste Authority
- North London Waste Plan
- Sustainable Design and Construction, SPD

20 Delivering the Core Strategy

20.1 Introduction

- 20.1.1 The policy suite of the Core Strategy and of other Local Plan documents such as the Development Management Policies and Site Allocations DPDs will provide the framework for decisions on planning applications.

20.2 Working with our partners

- 20.2.1 During the preparation of this Core Strategy we have worked with, and secured the involvement and commitment of, our delivery partners including the Local Strategic Partnership (One Barnet Partnership Board) and other key bodies. The Local Strategic Partnership (One Barnet Partnership Board) recognises that it has an important role to play in relation to the delivery of this Core Strategy, in particular in bringing forward the infrastructure requirements that will be identified in Barnet's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP). We are currently considering innovative ways to achieve this, in particular the financing aspects. Partnership working and the joint delivery of services are also being explored to optimise the delivery of Core Strategy objectives.
- 20.2.2 The IDP provides the mechanism for monitoring capital investment across our local public sector partner areas, to make plans corporately known and shared. Details are meant to be clearly exposed so that all partners know what is being delivered, where it is to happen and which agency is responsible for that delivery. However, funding does not need to be proven in order for items to be incorporated into the IDP, instead the objective is that all funding streams are visible and known and the IDP is used to identify gaps.
- 20.2.3 The IDP will provide a valuable dataset of all building and service re-profiling measures being undertaken across public sector bodies in Barnet to improve capacity and cost-effectiveness of infrastructure and public services. Close working with stakeholders and partners to align and better coordinate delivery programmes through the IDP will enable service improvements and efficiency savings.
- 20.2.4 We developed an innovative Engagement Agreement with NHS Barnet in 2009 to strengthen links between strategic planning and operational delivery. This provides a basis for close joint working between the council and NHS Barnet. The Engagement Agreement sets out the key components of Barnet's growth, its programme for delivering change and predicted impact on healthcare provision. It sets out the roles and responsibilities of officers in each organisation and identifies appropriate workstreams focusing on key issues highlighted in what was then Barnet's emerging Core Strategy. This helps to establish clear links across both organisations to facilitate continued integration.
- 20.2.5 One Barnet approach will help local strategic partners to demonstrate the key priorities we will be working on to ensure we are delivering the SCS.

20.3 Infrastructure delivery

- 20.3.1 The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) provides a high-level risk assessment and cost analysis framework for the delivery of infrastructure necessary to improve opportunities for and quality of life of the Borough's residents. It details the delivery of 'critical', 'necessary' and 'preferred' community benefits including educational and healthcare facilities; highways improvements; and open space provision for future and existing residents from all of the Borough's diverse communities.
- 20.3.2 The IDP contains information on the type, timing and potential costs of the infrastructure needed to support the housing development set out in the Core Strategy. The IDP and its subsequent updates will enable the council and One Barnet partners to plan effectively for population change and to maximise the potential benefits associated with this to achieve wider economic, social and environmental objectives.

- 20.3.3 Barnet's IDP also sets out a broad concept of 'prioritisation of infrastructure' to ensure that the council focuses on delivery of the right infrastructure at the right times that best serves the Borough and enhances Barnet as a successful London suburb. This responds to the anticipated timing for delivery of major housing developments, divided into three time periods: 2011-15, 2016-20 and 2021-25. The objective of prioritisation is also to recognise that some infrastructure is required as a result of population growth and change, whereas other infrastructure is primarily needed to improve overall quality of life for residents or to achieve wider sustainability objectives. The IDP therefore identifies which infrastructure is *critical* in relation to delivering Core Strategy objectives, which infrastructure is *necessary* but not critical, and which is *preferred* if funding is available.
- 20.3.4 Barnet's IDP is structured in three sections relating to physical infrastructure, social infrastructure and green infrastructure. Each section is divided into broad headings which are further subdivided into each key aspect as follows.

20.4 Physical infrastructure

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Movement and Connectivity | Public transport improvements, Highways, Junction Improvements, Parking, Cycling and Pedestrians |
| Utilities | Electricity, Gas, Water and Telecoms |

20.5 Social infrastructure

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Education | Further and Higher Education, Secondary, Primary, Early Years and Special needs, |
| Health | Secondary Care, Community Hospitals, Primary Care Health Centres, GP Practices, Social Care |
| Community Facilities | Libraries, Arts and Exhibition Spaces, Community Centres, Youth Provision, Religious Facilities, Other Facilities. |
| Sport and Recreation | Sports Centres, Sports Pitches, Swimming Pools, Play Facilities |
| Police and Justice | Back Office, Customer Facing, Courts |
| Fire and Rescue | Emergency Planning, Fire and Rescue Services |

20.6 Green infrastructure

| | |
|-------------|--|
| Open Spaces | Natural Open Spaces, Parks, Green Chains, Hard Landscaping, Biodiversity |
| Energy | Decentralised Energy, Energy Efficiency |
| Waste | Waste Collection, Waste Management, Household Waste Recycling Centre |
| Flooding | Fluvial Flood Prevention, Localised Flood Prevention, Drainage Network |

- 20.6.1 Opportunities for better coordination in Barnet of utilities upgrade and highways improvement programmes could be facilitated through the analysis and alignment of the investment programmes detailed in the IDP. Furthermore in regeneration and development areas by making the detailed costs of key infrastructure investment visible, there is potential to ensure utilities are laid so as to reduce long term road maintenance costs by insisting upon more effective and shared ways of laying the utilities.

20.7 Community Infrastructure Levy

- 20.7.1 In April 2010 Regulations were published to enable local authorities to set a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), a standard charge to be decided upon by authorities seeking contributions towards the costs of infrastructure arising from new development. The

government has signalled that the definition of infrastructure covered by CIL should be as wide as possible to encompass physical, social and green infrastructure such as schools and parks. CIL should apply to most forms of development including residential and commercial development. Negotiated planning obligations will still be possible for site specific issues, employment and training issues and to allow for affordable housing to be delivered on site.

- 20.7.2 We will develop a Barnet CIL as the most appropriate way to support delivery of the aims of this Core Strategy. Such an approach will replace our current approach of using standard formulae to calculate contributions towards providing school places, libraries and healthcare across all developments. Set out in the April 2010 Regulations, new restrictions on the use of planning obligations have been introduced in order for the two mechanisms to complement each other. Existing Planning Obligations guidance must be replaced with a new 'charging schedule' by July 2014.
- 20.7.3 The Barnet Infrastructure Delivery Plan will provide a robust methodology for a viable CIL charging schedule. Failure to effectively utilise the information from the Infrastructure Delivery Plan towards the delivery of a Community Infrastructure Levy could limit the council's ability to secure financial contributions towards infrastructure from development. Alongside the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, the evidence base will need to incorporate a Viability Appraisal to justify that the Levy proposed for Barnet will on a borough-wide scale not cause development in general to become unviable.
- 20.7.4 The Mayor of London has introduced a CIL to fund strategically important transport infrastructure (including Crossrail). Developers in Barnet will therefore be subject to a two tier CIL regime funding strategic transport improvements through the Mayor's CIL and local transport improvements through the Barnet CIL.

20.8 Planning obligations

- 20.8.1 We will use planning obligations (also known as S106 Agreements) in appropriate circumstances and in accordance with the NPPF (paras 203 to 205), to influence the nature of a development or mitigate or compensate for its potential affects. Where existing and planned provision of infrastructure, facilities and services are inadequate to meet the needs generated by a proposal, we will negotiate planning obligations to secure measures to meet those needs.
- 20.8.2 Planning obligations can help to contribute to the success of a development and achieving our aims for a site, its local area and the borough as a whole. They can enhance the quality of a development and enable proposals to go ahead that would otherwise be refused. Planning obligations will only be sought where it is not possible to deal with the matter through the imposition of a condition on a planning permission.
- 20.8.3 The items sought through a planning obligation will vary depending on the development scheme and its location. Considerations that may require S106 include :
- improvements to public transport infrastructure, systems and services
 - education provision
 - affordable or special needs housing
 - health facilities
 - small business accommodation and training programmes to promote local employment and economic prosperity
 - town centre regeneration, promotion, management and physical environmental improvements including heritage and conservation
 - improvements to highways and sustainable forms of transport
 - environmental improvements
 - provision of public open space and improving access to public open space
 - other community facilities including policing
 - other benefits sought as appropriate

- 20.8.4 In considering planning obligations, we will take into account the range of benefits a development provides. The extent to which a development is publicly funded will also be taken into account and policy applied flexibly in such cases. Pooled contributions will be used when the combined impact of a number of schemes creates the need for infrastructure or works, although such pooling will only take place within the restrictions of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010.
- 20.8.5 Until our guidance on Planning Obligations is revised, additional detail on our approach and the processes for consideration and flexibility regarding planning obligations is set out in the Interim Guidance Note on Section 106 which has been brought forward in response to the recession.

20.9 Other Funding Mechanisms

- 20.9.1 Regeneration funding is complex and we expect to utilise four main categories of funding to support the delivery of the infrastructure requirements set out in the IDP. These are:
- *Grants and Contributions* referring to existing or in-year contributions made available from either public or private sector resources. This includes CIL, S106 and Growth Area Funding.
 - *Leveraged Finance* referring to situations where capital investment is borrowed and applied up front with repayment made through ongoing public or private revenue funding over a period of time. This includes prudential borrowing and tax increment funding.
 - *Incentivisation Schemes* referring to situations where a payment is made by Government based on delivery results. This includes the New Homes Bonus
 - *Cost Reduction* referring to opportunities to reduce infrastructure delivery costs either by increasing asset lifespan or by reducing capital outlay. This includes asset utilisation and co-location.

20.10 Cross boundary working

- 20.10.1 We are working with neighbouring boroughs, the wider North London sub-region and other north London local authorities to ensure that Barnet's Core Strategy takes account of their plans and programmes as well as the spending and delivery plans of regional bodies such as Transport for London.

20.11 North London - Luton corridor

- 20.11.1 We will continue to work with Transport for London and Brent, Camden, and Harrow councils to develop a strategic approach to the management of locations with major growth potential along the London section of the London-Luton-Bedford co-ordination corridor. This focuses on the strategic co-ordination of infrastructure (including transport) to support and co-ordinate the growth potential of areas such as Brent Cross, Cricklewood, Mill Hill East and Colindale.
- 20.11.2 In partnership with Brent, Camden and Harrow we are working on developing the corridor concept further, starting with more detailed work on transport infrastructure and through engaging key partners to the north of London, such as Luton and Watford councils. This work will help build the case for investment in transport and social infrastructure to support growth (including that set out in this Core Strategy) by providing a basis for discussions with national providers as well as Transport for London.

20.12 Co-ordinating with neighbouring boroughs

- 20.12.1 We also work closely with neighbouring boroughs to ensure that a consistent approach is taken in relation to growth areas and town centres which adjoin or cross borough boundaries.
- The south west boundary of the Colindale Area Action Plan separates Barnet from Brent. Both boroughs recognise the opportunities for growth along the Edgware Road. There is a need for well planned and co-ordinated growth as the character of this route

is changing with redevelopment of key sites in Barnet and Brent. We will with Brent produce urban design / townscape / tall building guidance for the Edgware Road Corridor of Change.

- The North Circular Road Area Action Plan adjoins our boundary with Enfield and we are discussing the impact of development of 2,000 new homes, delivered through renewal, refurbishment or redevelopment, on local transport and community infrastructure. We are discussing more detailed regeneration proposals as part of the New Southgate Supplementary Planning Document.
- As part of the Mayor's All London Green Grid we will work with neighbouring authorities as well as the Corporation of London (responsible for management of Hampstead Heath) in the production of Green Grid Area Frameworks for Lea Valley and Finchley Ridge and Brent Valley and Barnet Plateau.

20.12.2 We have prepared some of our key evidence studies for this Core Strategy in conjunction with our neighbouring authorities:

- a Strategic Housing Market Assessment has been jointly undertaken with the other North London housing sub-region boroughs (Barnet, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Westminster)
- an Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has been produced jointly with Enfield, Hackney, Haringey and Islington
- a Decentralised Energy Initiative with Brent and the London Development Agency
- as part of the Drain London project a Surface Water Management Plan produced jointly with Brent and Harrow.

20.13 Monitoring

20.13.1 We will monitor the effectiveness of the Core Strategy in delivering its objectives by assessing performance against a series of indicators as set out in Appendix B.

20.13.2 Each year we will publish an Annual Monitoring Report, which will:

- assess the performance of the Core Strategy and other Local Plan documents by considering progress against the indicators proposed
- set out Barnet's updated housing trajectory
- identify the need to reassess or review any policies or approaches
- make sure the context and assumptions behind our strategy and policies are still relevant
- identify trends in the wider social, economic and environmental issues facing Barnet

Policy CS 15 - Delivering the Core Strategy

We will work with the Local Strategic Partnership (One Barnet Partnership Board) and other partners to deliver the vision, objectives and policies of this Core Strategy. We will:

- Utilise the Infrastructure Delivery Plan to improve understanding of current and future assets and their long term investment and management
- work with relevant providers and developers to ensure that necessary infrastructure is secured and delivered in time to support Barnet's consolidated growth and development and provide the facilities needed for the borough's communities.
- use planning obligations where appropriate alongside other suitable funding mechanisms to support the delivery of infrastructure, facilities and services to meet needs generated by development and mitigate the impact of development;
- work with neighbouring boroughs to co-ordinate delivery across boundaries; and
- monitor the implementation of the Core Strategy and publish the results in our Annual Monitoring Report.

Key References

- Annual Monitoring Reports
- Barnet Sustainable Community Strategy – 2010 – 2020
- Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations, Statutory Instrument, 2010
- Engagement Agreement – LB Barnet & NHS Barnet, 2009
- Infrastructure Delivery Plan
- Interim Guidance Note on S106 - Responding to the Recession, 2009
- London – Luton Corridor Prospectus, North London Strategic Alliance, 2009
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework
- New Southgate SPD, LB Enfield
- North Circular Road Area Action Plan, LB Enfield
- North London Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, 2008
- Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

Appendix A – Brent Cross – Cricklewood

| Suite of 'Saved' UDP Policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood | |
|--|--|
| Policy GCrick | Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area |
| Policy C1 | Comprehensive Development |
| Policy C1(A) | West Hendon |
| Policy C2 | Urban Design – High Quality |
| Policy C3 | Urban Design – Amenity |
| Policy C4 | Sustainable Design |
| Policy C5 | West Hendon and Cricklewood Town Centres |
| Policy C6 | Brent Cross New Town Centre |
| Policy C7 | Transport Improvements |
| Policy C8 | Parking Standards |
| Policy C9 | Housing and Community Development |
| Policy C10 | Employment |
| Policy C11 | Implementation |

Appendix B – Core Strategy Monitoring Indicators

| <p style="text-align: center;">CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported</p> | | |
|--|---|---|
| CS Policy | Proposed Indicator | Key Target |
| <p>CS 1 – Barnet’s Place Shaping Strategy</p> | <p>Net additional dwellings per annum (LBB COI)</p> | <p>Deliver 22,000 new homes between 2011/12 and 2021/22 Deliver 28,000 new homes between 2011/12 and 2025/26</p> |
| | <p>Housing quality – building for life (LBB COI)</p> | <p>To deliver an annual increase in the proportion of completed major housing schemes assessed under Building for Life Standard and meeting the ‘good’ standard.</p> |
| | <p>Amount of borough designated Metropolitan Open Land/Green Belt (LBB New)</p> <p>Coverage of Town Centres with Town Centre Frameworks or their equivalent (LBB New)</p> | <p>Maintain area of land (within LB Barnet) designated Green Belt (2,466 Ha) and Metropolitan Open Land (690 Ha).</p> <p>Adopt Town Centre Frameworks for Priority Town Centres by 2015/16 (Chipping Barnet, Edgware, Finchley Church End and North Finchley)</p> |

CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS
Indicators and Key Targets

LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR
 LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR
 LBB New – New indicator to be reported

CS 2 – Brent Cross-
 Cricklewood

This section sets out the key monitoring indicators which we will use to monitor proactively progress being made towards initiation of the development permitted by the planning permission for the Brent Cross – Cricklewood regeneration project which is described in the information box contained in Section 7 of the Core Strategy and referred to in Policy CS 2. This is an important strategic policy and if the anticipated progress towards implementation of the planning permission (or any associated permission) is not achieved, we will consider whether there is a need to review the Core Strategy and/or to consider alternative policy initiatives to fulfil the community’s needs. We will not apply the milestones set out in this section rigidly. They will be used in a flexible and sensible manner to gauge progress towards implementation of this important regeneration project and to assess the risk that the benefits and outputs from it (as anticipated in the core strategy) may be delayed or lost. If such a risk is found to exist in the course of monitoring and review, will carefully consider measures that may be needed to address it, including the possibility of a review of the core strategy.

The key milestone for the regeneration of Brent Cross – Cricklewood is likely to be the Phase 1 Compulsory Purchase Order. If by the end of 2014 any CPO that is required to deliver Phase 1 and commence the development has not been made and submitted for confirmation we will instigate a review of the policy framework for Brent Cross – Cricklewood. The form of the review will be set out in a revision to the Local Development Scheme.

Between 2010 and end 2012

- Grant of the planning permission for Brent Cross-Cricklewood;
- Completion of a Planning Performance Agreement in accordance with paragraph 22 of Schedule 2 to the Initial Planning Agreement;
- BXC Public Consultation Strategy approved (Condition 1.23) and planning and development forums established (if appropriate);
- Detailed topographical and geotechnical surveys undertaken;
- Existing Open Space site measurement approved (Condition 2.3)
- Detailed relevant transportation survey work undertaken to underpin the pre-commencement transport approvals under the permission;
- Discharge of relevant pre-reserved matters conditions, including:
 - A5 Corridor Study (Condition 2.7)
 - Construction Consolidation Centre Feasibility Report carried out and approved (Condition 1.9);

CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS
Indicators and Key Targets

LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR
 LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR
 LBB New – New indicator to be reported

- Framework Servicing and Delivery Strategy (Condition 1.21)
 - Phase 1 Transport Report (Condition 37)
 - Area Wide Walking and Cycling Study (Condition 1.20);
 - BXC Mobility Feasibility Study and Strategy (Condition 1.25)
 - RDF Feasibility Study submitted and approved (Condition 35.3);
 - Vacuum Waste Collection System Feasibility Study approved (Condition 1.24)
 - Work commenced in relation to detailed design of the Site Engineering and Preparation Works (Condition 1.8) including:
 - Identification of Remediation Zones and Sub-Zones for Phase 1 (Condition 31.1)
 - Commence preparation of the Site Specific Remediation Strategy for Remediation Zones in Phase 1 (Condition 28.7)
 - Detailed design work in relation to alignment of the primary and secondary road network within the development as the basis for fixing the Highways Orders needed to enable the development to proceed (Condition 13.1);
 - Site assembly process progressed by way of:
 - negotiations with existing owners and occupiers
 - site acquisition strategy agreed and approved
 - progress in preparing the Residential Relocation Strategy (Condition 1.10) and the Business Relocation Strategy (Condition 46.3)
 - Compulsory Purchase Order boundary defined
- Site referencing process for the CPO commenced.
- Between 2013 and 2014
- Consultative Access Forum established
 - Inclusive Access Strategy and Wayfinding Strategy approved (Condition 1.26)
 - Clitterhouse Mobility Scheme approved (Condition 2.2)
 - Pedestrian and Cycle Strategy approved (Condition 2.8)

CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS
Indicators and Key Targets

LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR
 LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR
 LBB New – New indicator to be reported

- Estate Management Framework approved (Condition 7)
 - Employment Skills Action Plan approved (Condition 10)
 - Phase Car Parking Standards and Phase Car Parking Standards approved for Phase 1 (Condition 11.2)
 - Scheme for Existing Landscape features in Phase 1 and Phase 1 arboricultural method statement approved (Condition 27)
 - Site Engineering and Preparation Works (Phase 1) approved (Condition 1.8) including approvals to:
 - Identification of Remediation Zones and Sub-Zones for Phase 1 (Condition 31.1)
 - Commence preparation of the Site Specific Remediation Strategy for Remediation Zones in Phase 1 (Condition 28.7)
 - Detailed approvals (Condition 13.1) obtained for:
 - primary and secondary roads in Phase 1
 - Bridge Structure B1 (A406 Templehof Bridge)
 - Brent Cross Pedestrian Underpass
 - Bus Station Temporary Enhancement Works
 - Eastern River Brent Alteration and Diversion Works
 - River Brent Bridges (as relevant to the Eastern River Brent Alteration and Diversion Works)
 - Clarefield Park Temporary Replacement Open Space
 - Clitterhouse Playing Fields (Part 1);
 - Other Phase 1A reserved matters approvals (Condition 1.2.1);
 - Revised Indicative Construction Programme approved (Conditions 4.3, 4.4 and 5.3);
 - Primary Development Delivery Programme and Detailed Delivery (Non PDP) Programme approved (Condition 5);
 - Highways Orders made and/or promoted;
 - Construction Accesses approved in relation to the CHP/CCHP and WHF (condition 8.4);
- CPO made and submitted for confirmation.
 Between 2015 and 2016

CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS
Indicators and Key Targets

LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR
 LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR
 LBB New – New indicator to be reported

- CPO Confirmed;
- All Phase 1 interests acquired;
- All requisite interests in Phase 1 site bound into the Planning Obligations under the Initial Planning Agreement (Condition 6);
- All Necessary Consents for Phase 1 Critical Infrastructure (Pre-Phase) (including highways agreements and bonds) completed and in place (Condition 13.1);
- Phase 1A commences 2016/17 and will be carried out in accordance with the Primary Development Delivery Programme; Phase 1B reserved matters applications submitted and approved (2016/17);
 Between 2016 and 2018
- Phase 1B Commences and will be carried out in accordance with the Primary Development Delivery Programme
- Plot 1C Commences and will be carried out in accordance with the Primary Development Delivery Programme.

| CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets | |
|--|--|
| LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported | |
| CS 3 – Distribution of growth in meeting housing aspirations | <p>Net additional dwellings in BXC, Colindale, Granville Road, Mill Hill East, West Hendon, Dollis Valley, Stonegrove and Spur Road and North London Business Park as a proportion of the annual total (LBB New)</p> <p>Delivery of housing in accordance with Table 3.2 – Sustainable Residential Quality of the London Plan</p> <p>Delivery of housing units between 2011/12 and 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2025/26 in accordance with Policy CS 3.</p> <p>Delivery of new housing : within range of 35 to 130 units per hectare dependent on PTAL (Suburban) within range of 35 to 260 units per hectare dependent on PTAL (Urban) within range of 35 to 405 units per hectare dependent on PTAL (Central)</p> |
| CS 4 – Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet | <p>Affordable homes delivered (gross) (LBB COI)</p> <p>Are we building the right homes for the next generation ?</p> <p>Deliver 40% of housing identified in Table 3 rows 4, 5 and 7 as new affordable homes by 2025/26</p> <p>Delivery of housing mix in line with the Sub Regional Strategic Housing Market Assessment (LBB COI) to include an increase in the proportion of : Social rented homes – 3 bedroom+ (2011 baseline 20% of social rented stock) Intermediate affordable homes – 4 bedroom+ (2011 baseline 11% of social rented stock) Market housing – 4 bedrooms+ (2011 baseline 9% of market stock) (baseline as % of tenure stock – Source :North London SHMA, 2011)</p> |

| CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets | |
|--|---|
| LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported | |
| | <p>Net additional gypsy, traveller pitches and travelling showpeople plots (LBB COI)</p> <p>Progress update on regeneration of priority estates (LBB COI)</p> <p>Net additional dwellings outside the growth areas and regeneration estates (LBB New)</p> <p>Number of, and location of Tall Buildings approved / completed (LBB New)</p> <p>Number of buildings on the heritage assets at risk register (LBB New)</p> <p>Total amount of new floorspace for Town Centre Uses (LBB COI)</p> |
| CS 5 – Protecting and Enhancing Barnet’s Character | <p>Deliver by 2017</p> <p>Up to 15 pitches for Gypsy and Travellers</p> <p>Up to 2 plots for Travelling Showpeople</p> <p>Baseline in 2010/11 is zero.</p> <p>New homes completed on each priority estate by tenure and dwelling mix</p> <p>Delivery of new housing units between 2011/12 and 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2025/26 in accordance with Table 3 (Rows 1, 4 and 5) – Barnet’s Development Pipeline.</p> <p>New Tall Buildings completed in strategic locations identified in Policy CS 5</p> <p>No increase in number of heritage assets on the heritage assets at risk register (from baseline of 13 listed buildings, 1 scheduled monument and 2 Conservation Areas in 2010/11).</p> <p>Deliver an additional 2,200m2 of convenience floorspace by 2021/26 focused on the following sub-areas - East and West (see para 11.3.8 for sub-areas)</p> <p>Deliver an additional 16,800m2 of comparison floorspace by 2021/26 focused on the following sub-areas – East, West and South West (see para 11.3.8 for sub-areas)</p> <p>Delivery of housing units between 2011/12 and 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2025/26 in accordance with Table 3 (Row 4) – Barnet’s Development Pipeline.</p> |
| CS6 – Promoting Barnet’s Town Centres | |

| CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets | | |
|---|--|---|
| | LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported | |
| CS7 – Enhancing and Protecting Barnet’s Open Spaces | Protection of public open space (LP AMR) | No net loss of public open space in Barnet’s parks from 2010/11 baseline of 488 ha |
| | % of borough with public access to open space and nature reserves (LBB New) | Reduce areas of public open space deficiency in North and East Finchley by delivering Green Infrastructure in those areas in accordance with the IDP |
| | Additional on-site open space in regeneration and development areas (LBB New) | By 2025/26 deliver 18.5 ha of new public open space in Brent Cross Cricklewood, Colindale and Mill Hill East |
| CS8 – Promoting a Strong and Prosperous Barnet | Total amount of net additional floorspace – by type and location [employment areas, town centres or other] (LBB COI) | Deliver 1,500 new jobs in Mill Hill East and Colindale by 2021 Deliver 20,000 new jobs in Brent Cross-Cricklewood by 2026 |
| | Employment land available - by type (LBB COI) | Deliver an additional 161,000 m2 of business space by 2026 through new build or refurbishment to meet forecast demand in regeneration and development areas and town centres. |
| | Commercial rents per m2 across borough (LBB New) | No significant increase in commercial rents above inflation relative to London average |
| | 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET) | No increase in NEETs from baseline of 5% of 16 to 18 year olds in 2010/11 relative to London average. London baseline 5% in 2010/11 |
| CS9 – Providing Safe, Effective and Efficient Travel | Development and delivery of new bus routes (LBB New) | Delivery of transport infrastructure in accordance with Barnet’s IDP including |

| CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets | | |
|--|--|---|
| LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported | | |
| | Rapid Transit Bus Service at Brent Cross Cricklewood Step Free Rail and tube Stations at Brent Cross Cricklewood Seek to reduce single car use as mode of travel to school. (12% reduction in car use in 2010/11) By 2026 increase mode share of cycling to 4.3% of all trips (Baseline of 1% of all trips in 2007/08-2009/10) To meet London Plan target of 1 in every 5 new parking spaces providing an electrical charging point | |
| CS10 – Enabling Inclusive and Integrated Community Facilities and Uses | Delivery of step free access (LBB New) Impact of School Travel Plans on mode of travel usually used Mode share by cycling (LTDS - proportion of trips by London residents where the trip origin is in Barnet that are made by cycling) Number of electric car parking spaces (LBB New) | Delivery of community facilities in accordance with Barnet’s IDP Number of new schools provided (as set out in accordance with Barnet’s IDP) |
| CS11 - Improving Health and Well Being in Barnet | Delivery of the facilities identified in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (LBB New) New schools provided Mortality rates from all circulatory diseases | Maintain mortality rates from all circulatory diseases below the London average (For 2006-08 the rate for Barnet was 56.2 deaths from circulatory diseases per 100,000 people. The average for London was 79.4 deaths per 100,000 people) |
| CS12 – Making Barnet a Safer Place | Perceptions that people in the area work together in their communities (Residents Perception Study) | No decrease in perception that people in the area work together in their communities from baseline of 62% in the 2010/11 Residents Perception Study |

CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS
Indicators and Key Targets

LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR
 LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR
 LBB New – New indicator to be reported

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|------|--|-----------|--|-----------|-----|-----------|-------------|------|--|-----------|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| | <p>Perceptions of anti-social behaviour (Residents Perception Study)</p> | <p>No decrease in number of people who feel safe during the day from baseline of 95% in the 2010/11 Residents Perception Study</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>CS13- Ensuring the Efficient Use of Natural Resources</p> | <p>Per capita CO2 emissions in the Borough</p> | <p>For Major Development meet the following targets for CO2 reduction in buildings:</p> <p>Residential buildings</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Year</td> <td>Improvement on 2010 Building Regulations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010-2013</td> <td>25% (code for sustainable homes level 4)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-2016</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-2031</td> <td>Zero carbon</td> </tr> </table> <p>Non domestic buildings</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Year</td> <td>Improvement on 2010 Building Regulations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2010-2013</td> <td>25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2013-2016</td> <td>40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2016-2019</td> <td>as per building regulations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019-2031</td> <td>Zero Carbon</td> </tr> </table> | Year | Improvement on 2010 Building Regulations | 2010-2013 | 25% (code for sustainable homes level 4) | 2013-2016 | 40% | 2016-2031 | Zero carbon | Year | Improvement on 2010 Building Regulations | 2010-2013 | 25% | 2013-2016 | 40% | 2016-2019 | as per building regulations | 2019-2031 | Zero Carbon |
| Year | Improvement on 2010 Building Regulations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2010-2013 | 25% (code for sustainable homes level 4) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2013-2016 | 40% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2016-2031 | Zero carbon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Year | Improvement on 2010 Building Regulations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2010-2013 | 25% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2013-2016 | 40% | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2016-2019 | as per building regulations | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2019-2031 | Zero Carbon | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>CS14 – Dealing with our Waste</p> | <p>NOx and primary PM10 emissions (LBB Air Quality Management Area)</p> <p>Capacity of waste management facilities both new and existing (The North London Waste Plan will identify indicators and targets across all seven boroughs which will be reported in each boroughs AMR)</p> | <p>No increase for the annual mean and the hourly mean of NOx and the annual mean and daily mean for PM10 above 2010/11 baseline.</p> <p>Targets as set out in North London Waste Plan</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| CORE STRATEGY MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets | |
|--|---|
| LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported | |
| Residual household waste per head | Year on year reduction in kgs of residual household waste per household from baseline of 717 kg for 2010/11 (Corporate Plan - CPI 4001) |
| CS15 - Delivering the Core Strategy | Delivery of projects in accordance with Barnet’s IDP |

Appendix C – Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPDs and Replacement of UDP Saved Policies (2006)⁴⁶

| UDP saved policies (2006) | Replaced by Core Strategy Policy | Replaced by Development Management Policy |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| GSD Sustainable Development | CS1, CS13 | DM04 |
| GMixed Use Mixed Use | CS1, CS6, CS9 | DM11 |
| GWaste – Waste Disposal | CS14 | |
| GEnv1 Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| GEnv2 Design | CS1, CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| GEnv3 Safe Environment | CS5, CS9, CS12 | DM03 |
| GEnv4 Special Area | CS5, CS7 | DM06, DM15, DM16 |
| GL1 Sport and Recreation | CS7, CS10 | DM13, DM15, |
| GL2 Tourist Facilities | CS6 | DM11 |
| GRoadNet Road Network | CS9 | DM17 |
| GParking Parking | | DM17 |
| GCS1 Community Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| GEMP1 Protecting Employment Sites | CS8 | DM14 |
| GEMP2 Promoting Business Activities | CS8 | |
| GEMP3 Maximising Job Creation | CS8 | DM11, DM12, DM14 |
| GEMP4 Protecting Employment Land | CS8 | DM14 |
| GTCR1 Retailing and Town Centres | CS6 | DM11, DM12 |
| GTCR2 Range of retail services | CS6 | DM09, DM10 |
| ENV5 – Aggregates Facilities | | DM01, DM04 |
| ENV6 – Light Pollution | CS13 | DM01 |
| Policy ENV7 – Air Pollution | CS13 | DM04 |
| Policy ENV12 – Noise Generating Development | CS13 | DM04 |
| Policy ENV13 – Minimising Noise Disturbance | CS13 | DM04 |
| Policy ENV14 – Contaminated Land | | DM04 |
| Policy ENV15 – Notifiable Installations | | DM04 |
| Policy D1 – High Quality Design | CS1, CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D2 – Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| Policy D3 – Spaces | CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D4 – Over-development | CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D5 – Outlook | | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D6 – Street Interest | CS1, CS5, CS6 | DM02 |
| Policy D9 – Designing Out Crime | CS12 | DM02 |
| Policy D10 – Improving Community Safety | CS12 | DM02 |
| Policy D11 – Landscaping | CS5, CS7 | DM01, DM02, DM15 |
| Policy D12 – Tree Preservation Orders | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy D13 – Tree Protection and Enhancement | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy D14 – Important Hedgerows | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy D15 – Other Hedgerows | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy D16 – Telecommunications | | DM18 |
| Policy D17 – High Buildings – Acceptable Locations | CS1, CS5 | |

⁴⁶ Excluding policies on Brent Cross –Cricklewood in Appendix A of the Core Strategy

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Policy D18 – High Buildings – Unacceptable Locations | CS1, CS5 | |
| Policy D21 – Hoardings | | DM01 |
| Policy D22 – Design and Shopfronts | | DM01 |
| Policy D23 – Traditional Shopfronts | | DM01 |
| Policy D24 – New Shopfronts | | DM09 |
| Policy HC1 – Conservation Areas – Preserving or Enhancing | CS5 | DM04 |
| Policy HC2 – Conservation Areas – Outline Applications | | DM04 |
| Policy HC5 – Areas of Special Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| Policy HC6 – West Heath/Golders Hill Park Area | | |
| Policy HC7 – Development in West Heath/Golders Hill Park Area | | |
| Policy HC8 – The Bishop’s Avenue | | |
| Policy HC14 – Locally Listed Buildings – Demolition | | DM06 |
| Policy HC15 – Locally Listed Buildings – Safeguarding | | DM06 |
| Policy HC17 – Archaeological Remains | CS5 | DM06 |
| Policy HC22 – Battlefield Site | CS5 | DM06 |
| Policy O1 – Green Belt/Metropolitan Land | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy O2 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – New buildings and uses | | DM15 |
| Policy O3 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – Extensions of buildings | | DM15 |
| Policy O4 – Green Belt – Major developed sites | | |
| Policy O5 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – Replacement of existing dwellings | | DM15 |
| Policy O6 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – Re-use of buildings | | DM15 |
| Policy O7 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land -adjacent land | | DM15 |
| Policy O8 – Green Belt – Agricultural Land | | DM15 |
| Policy O12 – Green Chains | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy O13 – Green Corridors | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy O17 – Ecological Impact Statement | | DM15 |
| Policy O18 – Watling Chase Community Forest | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L1 – Arts, Culture and Entertainment (ACE) – Loss of Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L3 – Arts, Culture and Entertainment Facilities – Development Criteria | | DM11, DM13 |
| Policy L5 – Arts, Culture and Entertainment Facilities – Planning Obligations | CS15 | |
| Policy L6 – Designing in Art | | |
| Policy L7 – Tourist Facilities – Preferred Locations | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy L8 – Tourist Facilities – Retention | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy L10 – Hotels – Development Criteria | | DM11 |
| Policy L11 – Public Open Space | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L12 – Public Open Space – Areas of Deficiency | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L13 – New Public Routes | CS7 | |
| Policy L14 – Public Open Space – Improved Provision | CS7 | |
| Policy L15 – Metropolitan Walks | CS7 | |
| Policy L16 – Allotments | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L19 – Sports Grounds and Playing Fields – New Provision | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L20 – Floodlighting of Sports Facilities | | DM01 |
| Policy L21 – Synthetic Sports Pitches | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L22 – Golf Courses | | DM01, DM15 |
| Policy L23 – Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities – Protection | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L24 – Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities – New Provision | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L25 – Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities – Preferred Locations | CS10 | DM13, DM15 |
| Policy L26 – Indoor/Outdoor Sports and Recreation Facilities | CS7, CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L27 – Indoor/Outdoor Sports and Recreation Facilities | CS7, CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy M1 – Transport Accessibility | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M2 – Transport Impact Assessments | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M3 – Travel Plans | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M4 – Pedestrians and Cyclists – Widening Opportunities | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M5 – Pedestrians and Cyclists – Improved Facilities | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M6 – Public Transport – Use | CS9 | |

| | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Policy M7 – Public Transport – Improvements | CS9 | |
| Policy M8 – Road Hierarchy | | DM17 |
| Policy M9 – Road Improvement Schemes | CS9, CS15 | |
| Policy M10 – Reducing Traffic Impact | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M11 – Safety of Road Users | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M12 – Safety of Road Network | CS9 | |
| Policy M13 – Safe Access to New Development | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M14 – Parking Standards | | DM17 |
| Policy M15 – Rail Freight | CS9 | |
| Policy M16 – Lorries – Controls on Movements | | DM17 |
| Policy M17 – Lorries – Deliveries and Servicing | CS9 | DM11, DM17 |
| Policy H1 – Housing – Allocated Sites | CS3 | |
| Policy H2 – Housing – Other Sites | CS3 | |
| Policy H3 – Loss of Residential Uses | | DM07 |
| Policy H5 – Affordable Housing | CS4 | DM10 |
| Policy H8 – Affordable Housing – Commuted Payments | | DM10 |
| Policy H9 – Houses in Multiple Occupation | CS4 | DM09 |
| Policy H10 – Accommodation for Homeless People | CS4 | DM09 |
| Policy H11 – Accommodation for Homeless People – Planning Obligations | | |
| Policy H12 – Special Needs Housing | CS4, CS10 | DM09 |
| Policy H15 – Sites for Gypsies and Other Travelling People | CS4 | |
| Policy H16 – Residential Development – Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| Policy H17 – Residential Development – Privacy Standards | CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy H18 – Residential Development – Amenity Space Standards | | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy H20 – Residential Development – Public Recreational Space | CS7 | DM02, DM15 |
| Policy H21 – Residential Density | CS3 | |
| Policy H23 – Conversion of Residential Property | CS4, CS5 | DM01, DM07 |
| Policy H24 – Conversion of Non-residential Uses | CS8, CS6, CS10 | DM01, DM11, DM14 |
| Policy H26 – Conversion of Residential Property – Design | | DM02, DM07 |
| Policy H27 – Extensions to Residential Property | | DM01, DM14, DM15 |
| Policy CS1 – Community and Religious Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS2 – Community and Religious Facilities – Planning Obligations | CS10, CS15 | DM13 |
| Policy CS3 – Community and Religious Facilities – Protection | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS4 – Educational Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS5 – Educational Facilities – Shared Use | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS6 – New School Sites | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS7 – Surplus Educational Land and Buildings | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS8 – Educational Needs | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS9 – Enlargement of School Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS10 – Health Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS11 – Health Care Facilities – Multiple Use | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS12 – Social Day Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS13 – Health and Social Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS14 – Surplus Health Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS15 – Cemeteries and Crematoria | CS10 | DM01, DM13 |
| Policy CS16 – Utility Companies and Statutory Undertakers | CS15 | |
| Policy GEMP1 – Protecting Employment Sites | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP1 – Primary Industrial Sites and Business Parks | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP2 – Employment Land – Protection | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP3 – Employment Land – Consolidation | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP4 – North London Business Park | CS3 | |
| Policy EMP5 – Warehousing | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP6 – Offices – New Development | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP7 – Offices – Re-use | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP8 – Small Businesses | CS8 | DM14 |

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| Policy EMP9 – New Residential Development | | |
| Policy EMP10 – Live Work Accommodation | | |
| Policy TCR1 – Sequential Approach | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR2 – Town Centre Development Sites – Identified | CS6 | |
| Policy TCR3 – Town Centre Development Sites – New | | |
| Policy TCR5 – Edge-of-Centre | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR7 – Out-of-Centre Locations | | DM11 |
| Policy TCR10 – Primary Retail Frontages | | DM11 |
| Policy TCR11 – Secondary Retail Frontages | | DM11 |
| Policy TCR12 – Evening Uses in Town Centres | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR13 – Residential Development in Town Centres | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR14 – Minicab Offices | | |
| Policy TCR15 – Car Showrooms | | |
| Policy TCR16 – New Markets | CS6 | |
| Policy TCR18 – Mixed Use Development | CS1, CS6, CS9 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR17 – North Finchley Town Centre | CS3, CS6 | |
| Policy TCR19 – Neighbourhood Centres, Shopping Parades and Local Shops | CS6 | DM12 |
| Policy TCR21 – Town Centre Environmental Quality | CS5, CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR22 – Design of New Retail Development | | DM11 |
| Policy IMP1 – Priorities for Planning Obligations | CS15 | |
| Policy IMP2 – Use of Planning Obligations | CS15 | |

Appendix D – Local Plan Glossary and List of Acronyms

Local Plan Glossary

| Term | Definition |
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| Accessibility | The ease with which goods, services and employment are accessible and available. |
| Accessible transport | Transport services and vehicles designed and operated to be useable by people with disabilities and other transport disadvantaged people: such as the elderly, parents with prams and children and wheelchair users. |
| Affordable housing | Housing intended to meet the needs of eligible households including availability at a cost low enough for them to afford. This is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Affordable housing includes social rented, intermediate and affordable rented housing. |
| Affordable Rented Housing | Housing that is let by local authorities or private registered providers of social housing to households who are eligible for social rented housing. Affordable Rent is subject to rent controls that require a rent of no more than 80% of the local market rent (including service charges, where applicable). |
| Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) | Areas where air quality objectives are not being met are normally designated as Air Quality Management Areas. It is then a requirement that affected Local Authorities implement a plan to improve air quality – a local Air Quality Action Plan. |
| Ambient Noise | Ongoing sound in the environment such as from transport and industry, as distinct from individual events, such as a concert. Unless stated otherwise, noise includes vibration. |
| Amenity | Element of a location or neighbourhood that helps to make it attractive or enjoyable for residents and visitors |
| Outdoor amenity space | Those open areas within a development which are used exclusively by the occupants for their recreation. These could be private gardens or communal open spaces. |
| Ancillary use | A use which is subservient to the main use of the building or site. |
| Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) | Part of the Local Plan which monitors (measures) and assesses the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in the Local Development Documents are being successfully implemented. |
| Area Action Plan (AAP) | A Development Plan Document focused upon a specific location or an area/s subject to conservation or significant change. |
| Area of Archaeological Significance | Sites identified as containing remains of archaeological significance and are afforded greater protection from potentially harmful development. The Council with the assistance of English Heritage, the Museum of London and the Hendon and District Archaeological Society, have identified 19 specific sites in which are considered to be 'Local Areas of Archaeological Significance'. |
| Areas for Intensification | Identified in the London Plan as areas that have significant potential for increases in residential, employment and other uses through development of sites at higher densities with more mixed and intensive use but at a level below that which can be achieved in the Opportunity Areas. |
| Article 4 Direction | A power available under the 1995 General Development Order allowing the Council to restrict permitted development rights in identified locations and require planning permission to be obtained from the Council. |
| Biodiversity | The variety of plants and animals and other living things in a particular area or region. It encompasses habitat diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity. |
| Biomass | The total dry organic matter or stored energy of plant matter. As a fuel it includes energy crops and sewage as well as forestry and agricultural residues. |
| Blue Ribbon Network | A spatial policy covering London's waterways and water spaces and land alongside them. |

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| BME (Black and Minority Ethnicity) | Includes members of the following British and international ethnicities: Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Indian, Indian other, Chinese, Asian other, Black African, Black Caribbean, other Black background, White and Asian mixed, White and African Caribbean mixed, other mixed background and other ethnic |
| Brown Roofs | Roofs which have a layer of soil or other material which provides a habitat or growing medium for plants or wildlife. |
| Brownfield Land | Land that has previously been used or developed and is not currently fully in use, although it may be partially occupied or utilised. It may also be vacant, derelict or contaminated. This excludes open spaces and land where the remains of previous use have blended into the landscape, or have been overtaken by nature conservation value or amenity use and cannot be regarded as requiring development. |
| Building Regulations | Sets minimum construction standards for building works. They exist to ensure the health and safety of people in and around all types of buildings (i.e. domestic, commercial, and industrial). They also provide for energy conservation and access to and use of buildings. |
| Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) | Measures the environmental performance of proposed development. |
| Car Club | Schemes such as city car clubs and car pools, which facilitate vehicle sharing. |
| Change of Use | A material change in the use of land or buildings from one class of use to another as defined by the Use Classes Order constitutes development and therefore requires planning permission. |
| Code for Sustainable Homes (CSH) | The Code is an environmental assessment method for rating and certifying the performance of new homes. |
| Combined Heat & Power (CHP) | The combined production of electricity and usable heat is known as Combined Heat and Power (CHP). Steam or hot water which would otherwise be rejected when electricity alone is produced, is used for space or process heating. |
| Commission for Architecture & the Built Environment (CABE) | Former Government advisory body on architecture, urban design and public space. It's now part of the Design Council. |
| Communities and Local Government (CLG) | Sets policy on supporting on supporting local government, communities and neighbourhoods; regeneration; housing; planning; building and the environment; and fire. |
| CommUNITY Barnet | CommUNITY Barnet is a voluntary organisation which was established in 1979. As part of a national network of Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS), CommUNITY Barnet supports, promotes and co-ordinates an effective voluntary and community sector in the borough to enhance the quality of life for all. |
| Community Facilities | Community facilities can include children's play and recreation facilities, services for young people, older people and disabled people, as well as health facilities, education facilities, libraries, community meeting places, pools, arts and exhibition spaces, places of worship and public toilets. |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) | CIL is a levy that local authorities in England and Wales can choose to charge on new developments in their area. The money can be used to support development by funding infrastructure that the Council, local community and neighbourhood want. |
| Community Right to Build Orders (CRBO) | These are essentially Orders made by the local planning authority (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) that grants planning permission for a site-specific development proposal or classes of development. |
| Comparison Goods | Retail items not usually bought on a regular basis, such as clothes, leisure goods or furniture. |
| Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) | A legal tool which enables the Council where there is a compelling case for the public interest to purchase an area of land or property. |
| Conservation Area | Areas of special architectural or historic interest the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. |
| Conservation Area Character Appraisals (CACA) | Explains and justifies the Conservation Area status, forms basis for local planning decisions and provides groundwork for any future policies and projects to preserve or enhance the area. |

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| Contaminated Land | Land which contains potentially harmful substances as a result of human activity or from natural causes may be regarded as contaminated land. |
| Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) | An area where the Council introduces restrictions on parking during certain times. |
| Convenience Goods | Goods purchased on a regular basis which meet the day to day needs of local residents. They require minimum effort in selection and buying e.g. food, newspapers and other goods of a standardised type. |
| Conversions | The sub-division of residential properties into self-contained flats or maisonettes. |
| Core Strategy | A Development Plan Document (DPD) setting out the long term spatial vision and strategic objectives for the Local Planning Authority area. It includes a spatial strategy, core policies and a monitoring and implementation framework for achieving them. |
| Decent Homes Standard | A Government standard for housing which requires both Councils and Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) to bring homes to a defined minimum by 2010. A dwelling which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing (i.e. a lack of hazards) - is in a reasonable state of repair - has reasonably modern facilities and services - provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort. |
| Decentralised Energy Network | A Decentralised Energy (DE) network produces heat as well as electricity at or near the point of consumption. |
| Density | A measure of the intensity of residential development. Usually expressed as the number of habitable rooms per hectare (hrha). |
| Density Matrix | Matrix in the London Plan 2011 which sets out density ranges related to existing building form, massing and public transport accessibility level (PTAL). |
| Design & Access Statement | A statement that accompanies a planning application to explain the design principles and concepts that have informed the development and how access issues have been dealt with. |
| Development | The carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under the land, or the making of any material change in the use of any buildings or other land. Throughout the DPD the term development is taken to include new development, redevelopment and change of use. |
| Development Management | The process by which a Local Planning Authority receives and considers the merits of a planning application and whether it should be given permission, having regard to the DPD and all other material considerations. |
| Development Management Policies DPD | A Development Plan Document setting out the detailed borough-wide implementation planning policies for development and forms the basis for local planning authority decision making. |
| Development Plan Documents (DPDs) | Statutory planning documents that form part of the Local Plan including the Core Strategy, Development Management, Site Allocations DPDs and also Area Action Plans. |
| Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) | The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 has now been repealed and replaced by the Equality Act 2010. Formerly, it made it unlawful to discriminate against people in respect of their disabilities in relation to employment, the provision of goods and services, education and transport. |
| District Town Centre | Provides convenience goods and services for more local communities and accessible by public transport, walking and cycling. Typically they contain 10,000-50,000 sq.m of retail floorspace. Some District centres have developed specialist shopping functions. |
| Dwelling | A building or any part of a building that forms a separate and self-contained unit designed to be occupied by a single family or household. |
| English Heritage | A Government advisory body with responsibility for all aspects for protecting and promoting the historic environment, and responsible for advising the Government on the listing of historic buildings (see listed building). |
| Environment Agency (EA) | Responsible for preventing or minimising the effects of pollution on the environment. Issues permits to monitor and control activities that handle or produce waste. It also provides up-to-date information on waste management and deals with other matters such as water quality, flood protection and advice. |
| Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) | Predicts the effects on the environment of a development proposal, either for an individual project or a higher-level 'strategy' (a policy, plan or programme), with the aim of taking account of these effects in decision-making. |

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| Equality Act 2010 | The primary purpose of the Act is to consolidate the Acts and Regulations, which formed the basis of anti-discrimination law in Great Britain. |
| Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) | An Equality Impact Assessment is a method of testing whether a policy or approach, affects all community groups in the same way or whether there are significant positive, negative or no impacts on particular groups before a policy is formally introduced. |
| Evidence Base | The information and data gathered by a local authority to demonstrate the soundness of the policy approach set out in development plan documents. |
| Family Housing | Accommodation suitable for households including children, usually consisting of two or more bedrooms. |
| Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) | Planning applications for development proposals of 1 hectare or greater in Flood Zone 1 and all proposals for new development located in Flood Zones 2 and 3 should be accompanied by a FRA. This should identify and assess the risks of all forms of flooding to and from the development and demonstrate how these flood risks will be managed, taking climate change into account. For major developments in Flood Zone 1, the FRA should identify opportunities to reduce the probability and consequences of flooding. |
| Flood Zones | Flood Zones are the starting point for the sequential approach. Flood Zones refer to the probability of sea and river flooding only, ignoring the presence of existing defences. |
| General Conformity | Development plan documents in London need to be in general conformity with The London Plan. It is up to the Mayor of London to determine if the plans are in general conformity with the London Plan. |
| General Development Order (GDO) | Identifies the certain types of usually minor development for which planning permission is not required. |
| Geographic Information System (GIS) | Software that displays digital map data and allows users to query and analyse that data. |
| Greater London Authority (GLA) | A strategic body constituted under the Greater London Authority Act 1999, consisting of the Mayor of London, the London Assembly and staff, which has responsibility for producing regional strategic policy in a number of areas, including transport, economic development, planning, and the environment for London. |
| Green Belt | A national policy designation that helps to contain development, protect the countryside and promote brownfield development. Development is strictly controlled in the Green Belt. |
| Green Chain / Link | These are areas of linked but separate open spaces and the footpaths between them. They are accessible to the public and provide way-marked paths and other pedestrian and cycle routes. |
| Green Grid | The Green Grid is a strategic framework for creating a network of interlinked, multi-purpose open spaces connecting the Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and open space to places where people live and work. |
| Green Infrastructure | The open environment within urban areas, the urban fringe and the countryside. It is a network of connected, high quality, multi-functional open spaces, corridors and the links in between that provide multiple benefits for people and wildlife. |
| Growth Area Fund (GAF) | Guides local delivery of additional housing supply; provides support to produce evidence for infrastructure required to support growth |
| Gypsies, Travellers' and Travelling Showpeople | Gypsies and Travellers are defined as persons of nomadic habit of life, including such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependents educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excluding members of an organised group of travelling showpeople or circus people travelling together. Travelling Showpeople are defined as members of a group organised for the purposes of holding fairs, circuses or shows (whether or not travelling together as such). This group includes such persons who on grounds only of their own or their family's or dependents educational or health needs or old age have ceased to travel temporarily or permanently, but excludes Gypsies and Travellers. |
| Habitable Room | A room within a dwelling, the primary purpose of which is for living, sleeping or dining, including kitchens where the total area is more than 13m ² (including fittings), or the dining space if it is divided from the working area by a moveable partition. Rooms exceeding 20m ² will be counted as two. |

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| Habitats Directive (Regulations) Assessment | In accordance with the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC the impacts of a land-use plan are assessed against the conservation objectives of a European Site, which includes Ramsar sites, and to ascertain whether it would adversely affect the integrity of that site. |
| Health Impact Assessment (HIA) | A means of assessing the health impacts of policies, plans and projects, particularly on disadvantaged groups. |
| Heritage Asset | A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. 'Heritage asset' includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing). |
| Highways Agency | An executive agency of the Department for Transport, responsible for the construction, maintenance and management of the trunk road and motorway network. |
| Historic Parks & Gardens Register | A Register kept by English Heritage, which includes town gardens and public parks to the great country estates, reflecting the styles and tastes of past generations. Listed parks and gardens are classified and afforded the same protection as Listed Buildings. |
| Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) | The Government's national housing and regeneration agency (formed as a result of a merger between the Housing Corporation and English Partnerships) that funds development of affordable housing, regulates registered social landlords and housing associations in England and brings land back into productive use. |
| Household | One person living alone, or a group of people who may or may not be related, living or staying temporarily at the same address with common housekeeping, sharing at least one meal a day or occupying a common living or sitting room. |
| Housing Association | A not-for profit body offering for rent independent homes owned by registered social landlords. |
| Housing in Multiple Occupation (HMO) | Housing occupied by members of more than one household, such as student accommodation or bedsits. |
| Housing Trajectory | Graph illustrating the supply of projected housing completions up to 2026. |
| Inclusive Design | Creates an environment where everyone can access and benefit from the full range of opportunities available to members of society. It aims to remove barriers that create undue effort, separation or special treatment, and enables everyone to participate equally in mainstream activities independently, with choice and dignity. |
| Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) | A ward level index made up of six indicators (income, employment, health, deprivation and disability, education, skills and training, housing and geographical access to services) for quantifying the degree of disadvantage in a ward, and which can help to identify areas for regeneration. |
| Industrial Business Park (IBP) | Strategic industrial locations that are particularly suitable for activities that need better quality surroundings including research and development, light industrial and higher value general industrial, some waste management, utility and transport functions, wholesale markets and small scale distribution. They can be accommodated next to environmentally sensitive uses. |
| Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) | Sets out what social, physical and green infrastructure is required in the Borough to support planned growth in the Local Plan. |
| Intermediate Housing | Intermediate affordable housing is housing at prices and rents above those of social rent but below market price or rents, and which meet the criteria set out above. These can include shared equity and other low cost homes for sales, and intermediate rent. |
| Lifetime Homes | Homes designed to meet the changing needs of the population from young children to the elderly, and thereby meeting the varying needs of numerous changes of occupiers in the same home by being designed to be accessible, adaptable and convenient and able to accommodate people with moderate mobility difficulties. Lifetime Homes have 16 design features that ensure that the home will be flexible enough to meet the existing and changing needs of most households - these are set out and explained at www.lifetimehomes.org.uk and are included in the health and well being category of the Code for Sustainable Homes. |
| Lifetime Neighbourhoods | Are designed to be welcoming, accessible and inviting for everyone, regardless of age, health or disability, is sustainable in terms of climate change, transport services, housing, public services, civic space and amenities making it possible for all people to enjoy a fulfilling life and take part in the economic, civic and social life of the community. |

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| Listed Building | An historic building recorded on a statutory list of buildings of 'special architectural or historic interest' compiled by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport on advice from English Heritage, to ensure that the architectural and historic interest of the building is carefully considered before any alterations, outside or inside, are agreed. A building is graded I, II* or II, with grade I being the highest. Listing includes the interior as well as the exterior of the building, and any buildings or permanent structures (e.g. wells) within the curtilage. |
| Listed Building Consent | Consent from the Local Planning Authority required for the demolition of a building, or for any works of alteration/extension which would affect the character of a building, listed as a building of special architectural or historic interest (Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990). |
| Local centre | See Neighbourhood and local centres. |
| Local Development Documents (LDDs) | The collective term for Development Plan Documents, Supplementary Planning Documents (does not form part of the statutory development plan) and other documents including the Statement of Community Involvement. |
| Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) | Now superseded and replaced with Local Plans as part of the National Planning Policy Framework. |
| Local Development Scheme (LDS) | A document setting out the intentions of the local planning authority for its Local Plan; in particular, the Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents it intends to produce and the timetable for their production and review. |
| Local Plan | The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community. In law this is described as the development plan documents adopted under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Current core strategies or other planning policies, which under the regulations would be considered to be development plan documents, form part of the Local Plan. The term includes old policies which have been saved under the 2004 Act. |
| Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) | Are locally-owned partnerships between local authorities and businesses and play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs. On 17 February 2011, the government announced the approval of the London Enterprise Partnership proposal. |
| Local Implementation Plans (LIPs) | Statutory transport plans produced by London boroughs bringing together transport proposals to implement the Mayor's Transport Strategy at the local level. |
| Local Nature Reserve (LNR) | Sites which offer special opportunities for people to see and learn about wildlife in natural surroundings. LNRs are a statutory designation made under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949. |
| Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) | An LSP is a partnership that brings together organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sector in a local authority area, dedicated to transforming the quality of life in the area. |
| Localism Act | In December 2010 the Coalition Government introduced the Localism Bill as part of its objective to shift power back into the hands of individuals, communities and councils and give local people a real share in growth. Following Royal Assent in November 2011, the Bill was enacted. The main features of the Act are : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction of new freedoms and flexibilities for local government • introduction of new rights and powers for communities and individuals • reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective • reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally The Localism Act introduces Neighbourhood Development Plans |
| London Plan | The Mayor's London Plan sets out an integrated economic, environmental and social framework for the development of the capital over the next 20-25 years. London boroughs Local Plans need to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its policies guide decisions on planning applications by councils and the Mayor. |
| London Underground Limited (LUL) | The underground network became a separate entity in 1985, when the UK Government created London Underground Limited (LUL). Since 2003 LUL has been a wholly owned subsidiary of Transport for London (TfL). |
| Main town centre uses | Retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment facilities the more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, night-clubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres, and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities). |

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| Major Development (applications decided by the London Boroughs) | Major Developments are defined as these: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> for dwellings: where 10 or more are to be constructed (or if number not given, area is more than 0.5 hectares). for all other uses: where the floor space will be 1000 sq metres or more (or the site area is 1 hectare or more). The site area is that directly involved in some aspect of the development. Floor space is defined as the sum of floor area within the building measured externally to the external wall faces at each level. Basement car parks, rooftop plant rooms, caretakers' flats etc. should be included in the floor space figure. |
| Major Town Centres | Typically found in inner and some parts of outer London with a borough-wide catchment. They generally contain over 50,000 sq.m of retail floorspace with a relatively high proportion of comparison goods relative to convenience goods. They may also have significant employment, leisure, service and civic functions. |
| Material Considerations | Matters that should be taken into account in deciding on a planning application or on an appeal against a planning decision. This includes such things as the number, size, layout, siting, design and external appearance of buildings and the proposed means of access, together with landscaping, impact on the neighbourhood and the availability of infrastructure. |
| Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) | MOL covers areas of major open spaces within urban area that have more than borough-wide significance for their contribution to recreation, leisure and visual amenity, and which receive same presumption against development as Green Belt. |
| Metropolitan Town Centres | Serve wide catchments which can extend over several boroughs, and into parts of the wider south east region. Typically they contain at least 100,000 sq.m of retail floorspace with a significant proportion of high-order comparison goods relative to convenience goods. These centres generally have very good accessibility and significant employment, service and leisure functions |
| Mixed Use Development | Development for a variety of activities (and uses) on single sites or across wider areas such as town centres. |
| Municipal solid waste (MSW) | Includes all waste under control of local authorities or agents acting on their behalf. It includes all household waste, street litter, waste delivered to council recycling points, municipal parks and gardens wastes, council office waste, Civic Amenity waste, and some commercial waste from shops and smaller trading estates where local authorities have waste collection agreements in place. It can also include industrial waste collected by a waste collection authority with authorisation of the waste disposal authority. |
| National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) | Sets out Government's planning policies for England and how they are expected to be applied. The NPPF replaces 44 planning documents, primarily Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs), which previously formed Government policy towards planning. |
| Nature Conservation | Protection, management and promotion for the benefit of wild species and habitats, as well as the human communities that use and enjoy them. This also covers the creation and re-creation of wildlife habitats and the techniques that protect genetic diversity and can be used to include geological conservation. |
| Nature Reserve | There are three designations of nature reserve: - National Nature Reserve (NNR) - An area of national or international importance, that are managed by Natural England or approved bodies, primarily for the benefit of nature conservation; Local Nature Reserve (LNR) - A habitat of local significance that makes a useful contribution both to nature conservation and for the public to see, learn and enjoy wildlife (declared under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949) Non-statutory Nature Reserves - Nature Reserves established and managed by a variety of public and private bodies. |
| NEET - those Neither in Employment, Education or Training | Originally a UK Government classification for young adults aged between 16 and 19 (sometimes 16 to 18) who, for whatever reason, are not in employment, education or training. This classification does include those who are long term sick or who might be looking after family members. |
| Neighbourhood & local town centres | Typically serve a localised catchment often most accessible by walking and cycling and include local parades and small clusters of shops, mostly for convenience goods and other services. They may include a small supermarket (less than 2,000 sq. m), sub-post office, pharmacy, laundrette and other useful local services. Together with District centres they can play a key role in addressing areas deficient in local retail and other services. |

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| Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDO) | An Order made by a local planning authority (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) through which Parish Councils and neighbourhood forums can grant planning permission for a specific development proposal or classes of development. |
| Neighbourhood Plans | A plan prepared by a Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum for a particular neighbourhood area (made under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004). |
| New Homes Bonus | The New Homes Bonus is designed to create an effective fiscal incentive to encourage local authorities to facilitate housing growth. It is based on the Council Tax of additional homes. |
| North London Strategic Alliance (NLSA) | The North London Strategic Alliance (NLSA) was established in 1999 as the sub-regional strategic partnership for North London and brings together public, private and voluntary sector organisations. The NLSA is politically led with a core membership made up of those local authorities which constitute the north London area. The key purpose of the NLSA is to develop and articulate a clear vision for north London, and to provide the strategic leadership to ensure that the vision is realised. |
| North London Waste Authority (NLWA) | Statutory waste disposal authority established in 1986 to arrange the disposal of waste collected by its seven constituent boroughs: Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest. |
| North London Waste Plan (NLWP) | The North London Waste Plan sets out the planning framework for waste management in the London boroughs of Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest for the next 15 years up to 2027. It identifies sites for waste management use and sets out policies for determining waste planning applications. |
| Opportunity Areas | London's principal opportunities for accommodating large scale development to provide substantial numbers of new employment and housing, each typically more than 5,000 jobs and / or 2,500 homes, with a mixed and intensive use of land and assisted by good public transport and accessibility. |
| Out of Centre | A location clearly separated from a town centre that can still be in an urban area. |
| Outer London Commission (OLC) | The Outer London Commission (OLC) was established by the Mayor of London to advise how Outer London can play its full part in the city's economic success. |
| Outdoor amenity space | Those open areas within a development which are used exclusively by the occupants for their recreation. These could be private gardens or communal open spaces. |
| Permitted Development Rights | Rights to carry out certain limited forms of development without the need to make an application for planning permission, as granted under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995. |
| Planning Conditions | Planning conditions are provisions attached to the granting of planning permission. The Government's five policy tests for conditions are that they must be necessary, relevant to planning, relevant to the development to be permitted, enforceable, precise and reasonable in all other respects. More detail on Government policy on planning conditions is in Circular 11/1995 (found in Government policies) |
| Planning Inspectorate (PINS) | The Planning Inspectorate is an independent Government agency that processes planning and enforcement appeals and holds inquiries into local development plans. It also deals with a wide variety of other planning-related casework, including listed building consent appeals, advertisement appeals and reporting on planning applications. |
| Planning Obligations | Planning obligations are legally binding agreements between local planning authorities and persons with an interest in a piece of land. They will generally be used to secure funds or works and for essential elements of schemes such as the provision of affordable housing, public transport services or new infrastructure such as roads or a community centre. Each planning obligation will be specific to the proposed development and should be sought only when it meets all the tests as set out in the NPPF (paras 203 to 205). Planning obligations should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - necessary to make the proposed development acceptable in planning terms - directly related to the proposed development - fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the proposed development |
| Planning Policy Statement/Guidance (PPSs / PPGs) | Planning Policy Statements (PPS) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs), which previously formed Government policy towards planning have been replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework published on March 27 th 2012. |
| Primary Frontage | The primary frontage in a town is the strip of most popular, central shops with the highest level of pedestrian footfall and are likely to include a high proportion of retail uses. |

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| Proposals Map | An obligatory part of the adopted development plan which shows the area base map with allocated sites for particular land use and development proposals and sets out the area to which specific policies apply. |
| Public Realm | This is the space between and within buildings that is publicly accessible, including streets, squares, forecourts, parks and open spaces. |
| Public Transport Accessibility Level (PTAL) | A detailed and accurate measure of the accessibility of a point to the public transport network, taking into account walk access time and service availability. PTALs reflect : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> walking time from the point of interest to the public transport access points; the reliability of the service modes available; the number of services available within the catchment; and the level of service at the public transport access points – ie average waiting time. |
| Registered Social Landlord (RSL) | Registered Social Landlords are government-funded not-for-profit organisations that provide affordable housing. They include housing associations, trusts and cooperatives. They work with local authorities to provide homes for people meeting the affordable homes criteria. As well as developing land and building homes, RSLs undertake a landlord function by maintaining properties and collecting rent. |
| Renewable Energy | Energy derived from a source that is continually replenished, such as wind, wave, solar, hydroelectric and energy from plant material, but not fossil fuels or nuclear energy. Although not strictly renewable, geothermal energy is generally included. |
| Retrofitting | The addition of new technology or features to existing buildings in order to make them more efficient and to reduce their environmental impacts. |
| Road hierarchy | Categorisation of roads by function and intended traffic management |
| Secondary Frontage | Secondary frontages provide greater opportunities for a diversity of uses. |
| Section 106 Agreements | These agreements confer planning obligations on persons with an interest in land in order to achieve the implementation of relevant planning policies as authorised by Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. |
| Secure by Design | The planning and design of street layouts, open space, and buildings so as to reduce the likelihood or fear of crime. |
| Sequential Approach | Planning policies that receive particular steps to be taken, or types of location or sites to be considered, in a particular order of preference. For example, retail, commercial and leisure development should be focused on sites within town centres, or if no in-centre sites are available, on sites on the edges of centres that are, or can be, well integrated with the existing centre and public transport. |
| Site Allocations Development Plan Document | Identifies sites and proposals for development in order to ensure the vision, objectives and targets of the Core Strategy are delivered. |
| Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) | SINCs are areas protected through the planning process having been designated for their high biodiversity value. SINCs are classified into sites of metropolitan importance, borough and local importance for nature conservation. |
| Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) | Areas of special interest by reason of its fauna, flora, geological or physiographic (landform) features. A classification notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended). |
| Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) | Independent businesses managed by its owner or part owners and having a small market share either by number of employees or turnover. Also known as SMEs. |
| Social Infrastructure | Covers facilities such as health provision, early years provision, schools, colleges and universities, community, cultural, recreation and sports facilities, places of worship, policing and other criminal justice or community safety facilities, children and young people's play and informal recreation facilities. This list is not intended to be exhaustive and other facilities can be included as social infrastructure. |
| Spatial Planning | An ongoing process of managing change which goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function. This includes policies which can affect land use by influencing the demands on, or needs for, development, but which are not capable of being delivered solely or mainly through the granting or refusal of planning permission and which may be implemented by other means. |
| Spatial Vision | A statement of long term shared goals for the spatial structure of an area. |

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| Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) | Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP) is the Government's recommended system for energy rating of dwellings and is based on the annual energy costs for space and water heating. |
| Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) | The Council's policy for involving the community in the preparation, review and alteration of Local Development Documents and planning applications. It includes who should be involved and the methods to be used. |
| Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) | Required under the European Directive 2001/42/EC, which has been transposed into UK Law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. Strategic Environmental Assessment seeks to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans to promote sustainable development. |
| Strategic Development | An application which is referable to the Mayor of London under the Town & Country Planning (Mayor of London) Order 2008 largely by virtue of its size (over 150 residential units or over 15,000 m ² of floorspace) or height (over 30 metres high). |
| Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) | A SFRA looks at flood risk at a strategic level on a local planning authority scale. It is the responsibility of those allocating land for development (LPAs) to demonstrate that the flood risk to and from development will be acceptably safe throughout the lifetime of the proposed development, taking account of climate change. A SFRA essentially maps out the flood plain into flood zones so that development can be steered to areas with a low risk of flooding (application of the sequential test - NPPF Technical Guidance). See Flood Zones. |
| Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) | An assessment of land availability for housing which informs the London Plan and borough local development documents. |
| Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) | An assessment of housing need and demand which informs the London Plan and borough local development documents. |
| Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) | Document providing supplementary information in respect of the policies in development plan documents and not forming part of the development plan nor subject to independent examination. Must be subject to public consultation if it is to be accorded any weight in decisions on development proposals. SPDs can be taken into account as a material planning consideration. |
| Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) | A SPG does not form a part of the statutory plan. It can take the form of design guides or area development briefs, or supplement other specific policies in the plan. However, it must be consistent with national and regional planning guidance, as well as the policies set out in the adopted plan. It should be clearly cross-referenced to the relevant plan policy or proposal that it supplements. SPGs can be taken into account as a material consideration. |
| Supported Housing | Homes in which vulnerable residents are offered a range of housing related support services to enable them to live independently. |
| Surface Water | Rainwater lying on the surface or within surface water drains/sewers. |
| Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) | A framework through which key local partners with responsibility for surface water and drainage in their area work together to understand the causes of surface water flooding and agree the most cost effective way of managing surface water flood risk. |
| Sustainability Appraisal (SA) | Required by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Sustainability Appraisal is based on the principles of Strategic Environmental Assessment but is wider in focus and covers other key considerations of sustainability that concern social and economic issues. In effect it is a systematic and continuous assessment of the social, environmental and economic effects of strategies and policies in the Local Plan. |
| Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) | SCS is prepared by the Local Strategic Partnership as a set of goals and actions which they, in representing the residential, business, statutory and voluntary interests of an area, wish to promote. The SCS should inform the Local Plan and act as an umbrella for all other strategies devised for the area. |
| Sustainable Development | This covers development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. |
| Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) | SUDS can reduce the total amount, flow and rate of surface water that runs directly to rivers through stormwater systems. |
| Tall Buildings | Buildings which in Barnet are either eight or more storeys high, or which are 26 metres above ground level. |

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| Test of Soundness | The examination in public of a DPD will involve the legal compliance check and an assessment against the tests of soundness, the DPD should be justified, effective, positively prepared and consistent with national policy. |
| Three Strands Approach | Three Strands provides the spatial vision that underpins Core Strategy and Local Plan. The three strands are: Strand 1 - Absolute protection of the Green Belt, Metropolitan Open Land and other valued open space from inappropriate development. Strand 2 - Enhancement and protection of Barnet's suburbs, town centres and historic areas Strand 3 - Consolidated growth in areas in need of renewal and investment |
| Town Centres | Covers - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metropolitan Town Centre, • Major Town Centre, • District Town Centre, • Neighbourhood and local town centres |
| Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment (TCFNA) | An audit of existing and proposed town centre floorspace. The study assesses both qualitative and quantitative measures and whether there is enough town centre floorspace to serve the needs of Barnet's growing population over the next 15 years |
| Transport Assessment | This is prepared and submitted alongside planning applications for developments likely to have significant transport implications. |
| Transport for London (TfL) | One of the GLA groups of organisations, accountable to the Mayor, with responsibility for delivering an integrated and sustainable transport strategy for London. |
| Transport for London Road Network (TLRN) | The Mayor's term for the Greater London Authority Road Network as described in the Greater London Authority Act 1999 comprises 550 km of London's red routes and other important streets. |
| Travel Plan | A general term for a package of measures aimed at promoting greener, cleaner travel choices" with a specific emphasis on reducing single-occupancy car journeys. |
| Tree Preservation Order (TPO) | Made under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by the local planning authority to protect trees of importance for amenity, landscape and nature conservation. |
| Unitary Development Plan (UDP) | A statutory development plan introduced in 1986 and replaced by Local Development Frameworks in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Barnet's Unitary Development Plan was adopted in May 2006. |
| Use Class | A category of land use activities requiring planning permission which is set according to a use classes order. The uses are grouped into classes A, B, C and D and sui generis (a use not within a specified class). The classes are: A1 - shops A2 - financial and professional services A3 - restaurants and cafes A4 - drinking establishments A5 - hot food takeaways B1 - business (office) B2 - general industry B8 - storage C1 - hotels C2 - residential institutions C3 - dwelling houses D1 - non-residential institutions D2 - assembly and leisure Sui Generis - a use not within a specified class. |
| Use Classes Order | A legislative mechanism under the terms of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Use Classes (Amendment) Order 2005, and the General Permitted Development (Amendment) Order 2005, which sets out when permission is or is not required for changes to the use of land and buildings, and the circumstances under which such changes can be undertaken. |
| Wheelchair accessible housing | This refers to homes built to meet the standards set out in the second edition of Wheelchair Housing Design Guide by Stephen Thorpe, Habinteg Housing Association 2006. |

Local Plan List of Acronyms

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| AAP | Area Action Plan |
| AMR | Annual Monitoring Report |
| AQAP | Air Quality Action Plan |
| AQMA | Air Quality Management Area |
| BME | Black and Minority Ethnicity |
| BRE | Building Research Establishment |
| BREEAM | Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method |
| BXC | Brent Cross / Cricklewood |
| CABE | Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment |
| CACA | Conservation Area Character Appraisal |
| CCHP | Combined Cooling, Heat and Power |
| CHD | Coronary Heart Disease |
| CHP | Combined Heat and Power |
| CIL | Community Infrastructure Levy |
| CLG | Communities and Local Government |
| COI | Core Output Indicator |
| CPO | Compulsory Purchase Order |
| CPZ | Controlled Parking Zone |
| CRBO | Community Right to Build Order |
| CSH | Code for Sustainable Homes |
| CVD | Cardiovascular Disease |
| DDA | Disability Discrimination Act |
| DE | Decentralised Energy |
| DMP | Development Management Policies |
| DPD | Development Plan Document |
| EA | Environment Agency |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| ELR | Employment Land Review |
| EqIA | Equalities Impact Assessment |
| EST | Energy Saving Trust |
| FRA | Flood Risk Assessment |
| GAF | Growth Area Fund |
| GDO | General Development Order |
| GLA | Greater London Authority |
| GLAAS | Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service |
| GTANA | Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation and Needs Assessment |
| HA | Highways Agency |
| HDA | Habitat Directive Assessment |
| HADAS | Hendon and District Archaeological Society |
| HCA | Homes and Communities Agency |
| HIA | Health Impact Assessment |
| HMCS | Her Majesty's Court Service |
| HMO | Housing (Homes) in Multiple Occupation |
| hrha | Habitable Rooms per Hectare |
| IBP | Industrial Business Park |
| IDP | Infrastructure Delivery Plan |
| IMD | Index of Multiple Deprivation |
| JSNA | Joint Strategic Needs Assessment |
| LBC | Listed Building Consent |
| LDA | London Development Agency |
| LDD | Local Development Document |

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| LDS | Local Development Scheme |
| LIP | Local Implementation Plan |
| LNR | Local Nature Reserve |
| LSP | Local Strategic Partnership |
| LTDS | London Travel Demand Survey |
| LUL | London Underground Limited |
| MOL | Metropolitan Open Land |
| MSW | Municipal Solid Waste |
| NDO | Neighbourhood Development Order |
| NDP | Neighbourhood Development Plan |
| NEET | Neither in Employment, Education or Training. |
| NHS | National Health Service |
| NLSA | North London Strategic Alliance |
| NLWA | North London Waste Authority |
| NLWP | North London Waste Plan |
| NPPF | National Planning Policy Framework |
| NVQ | National Vocational Qualification |
| OAPF | Opportunity Area Planning Framework |
| OLC | Outer London Commission |
| OLDC | Outer London Development Centre |
| ONS | Office for National Statistics |
| PCT | Primary Care Trust |
| PD | Permitted Development |
| PDL | Previously Developed Land |
| PPS | Planning Policy Statement |
| PTAL | Public Transport Accessibility Level |
| PVs | Photovoltaics |
| RSL | Registered Social Landlord |
| SA | Sustainability Appraisal |
| SAB | Sustainable Urban Drainage System Approval Body |
| SAP | Standard Assessment Procedure |
| SCI | Statement of Community Involvement |
| SCS | Sustainable Community Strategy |
| SEA | Strategic Environmental Assessment |
| SFRA | Strategic Flood Risk Assessment |
| SHLAA | Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment |
| SHMA | Strategic Housing Market Assessment |
| SINC | Site of Importance for Nature Conservation |
| SME | Small and Medium Enterprises |
| SMR | Standardised Mortality Rate |
| SPD | Supplementary Planning Document |
| SPG | Supplementary Planning Guidance |
| SSSI | Site of Special Scientific Interest |
| STP | School Travel Plan |
| SUDS | Sustainable Urban Drainage System |
| SWMP | Surface Water Management Plan |
| TCFNA | Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment |
| TfL | Transport for London |
| TLRN | Transport for London Road Network |
| TPO | Tree Preservation Order |
| UDP | Unitary Development Plan |
| WLA | West London Alliance |

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Barnet's Local Plan (Development Management Policies)



Development
Plan Document
Adoption
Version



September
2012



Local Plan

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. Introduction | 1 |
| Development Management | 2 |
| Policy content | 2 |
| Brent Cross Cricklewood | 2 |
| Evidence Base and sustainability appraisal | 3 |
| Relationship with the Core Strategy | 3 |
| Monitoring | 3 |
| Implementation | 4 |
| 2. Protecting Barnet’s character and amenity | 5 |
| High Quality Design | 5 |
| Character | 6 |
| Character in town centres | 9 |
| Advertising | 9 |
| Security in design | 9 |
| Amenity | 9 |
| Conversions | 10 |
| Gardens | 10 |
| Landscaping and trees | 10 |
| 3. Development standards | 13 |
| By Design | 13 |
| Lifetime Homes | 13 |
| Code for Sustainable Homes | 14 |
| BREEAM | 14 |
| Wheelchair accessibility | 14 |
| Minimum floor space | 14 |
| Outdoor Amenity Space | 14 |
| Secured by Design | 15 |
| Play space | 15 |
| Other standards | 15 |
| 4. Accessibility and Inclusive Design | 18 |
| 5. Environmental Considerations | 20 |
| Decentralised Energy | 21 |
| Retro fitting | 21 |
| Air Quality | 21 |
| Noise | 22 |
| Contaminated land | 22 |
| Notifiable Installations | 23 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Surface Water Run off and Drainage | 23 |
| Watercourse restoration | 23 |
| 6. Tall Buildings | 26 |
| 7. Heritage and Conservation | 28 |
| Conservation areas | 30 |
| Listed and Locally Listed Buildings | 30 |
| Archaeological heritage | 31 |
| 8. Protecting housing in Barnet | 33 |
| 9. Ensuring a variety of sizes of new homes to meet housing need..... | 34 |
| 10. Specialist housing – Houses in Multiple Occupation, Hostels, Student Accommodation and Housing Choice for Older People | 36 |
| Extending housing choice for older people | 36 |
| Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)..... | 37 |
| Student Accommodation | 37 |
| 11. Affordable housing contributions | 39 |
| 12. Development principles for Barnet’s town centres | 41 |
| Town Centre Uses..... | 42 |
| Out of town centre retail | 43 |
| Mixed Use..... | 43 |
| Small Shops | 44 |
| Town centre boundaries..... | 44 |
| Retail frontages | 44 |
| Evening Uses | 46 |
| 13. Maintaining the local centres and parades | 49 |
| 14. Community and education uses | 50 |
| 15. New and existing employment space | 53 |
| Existing Employment Space | 53 |
| 16. Green belt and open spaces | 57 |
| Green Belt / Metropolitan Open Land | 58 |
| Open Spaces..... | 58 |
| 17. Biodiversity | 61 |
| 18. Travel Impact and Parking Standards | 65 |
| Road Safety..... | 66 |
| Road Hierarchy | 66 |
| Development, Location and Accessibility..... | 66 |
| Transport Assessment | 66 |
| Travel Planning | 66 |
| Local Infrastructure Needs | 67 |
| Parking Management | 67 |

| | |
|---|------------|
| 19. Telecommunications | 71 |
| 20. Appendix 1: Archaeological Map for the Proposals Map | 73 |
| 21. Appendix 2: Development Management Monitoring Indicators | 74 |
| 22. Appendix 3: Core Strategy and Development Policies DPDs and Replacement of Saved UDP Policies (2006) | 76 |
| 23. Appendix 4: Primary and Secondary shopping frontages | 80 |
| 24. Appendix 5: Town Centre Maps | 86 |
| 25. Appendix 6: Local frontages | 101 |
| 26. Appendix 7: Locally Significant Industrial Sites and Business Locations Maps | 104 |

Foreword

People choose to live in Barnet because of its clean and green environment, excellent schools, and low levels of crime, good radial transport, public spaces and high quality housing. This Development Management Policies document will help to further implement the Core Strategy (the guide for planning, regeneration and redevelopment to enhance Barnet as an excellent suburb) for day to day planning decisions.

Our philosophy is to ensure protection and enhancement of what is good, consolidation of building work in the pipeline and ensure the provision of supporting infrastructure. We will plan and control further re-development and manage change, throughout the borough for the benefit of residents.

The policies in the Development Management Policies document will shape our suburb in the future, help create attractive new buildings and neighbourhoods by providing us with the policy framework to restrict inappropriate increases in urbanisation.



Councillor Richard Cornelius
Leader of Barnet Council

| Ref | Policy Title | Page |
|------|--|------|
| DM01 | <u>Protecting Barnet's character and amenity</u> | 11 |
| DM02 | <u>Development standards</u> | 16 |
| DM03 | <u>Accessibility and inclusive design</u> | 19 |
| DM04 | <u>Environmental considerations for development</u> | 24 |
| DM05 | <u>Tall Buildings</u> | 27 |
| DM06 | <u>Barnet's Heritage and Conservation</u> | 31 |
| DM07 | <u>Protecting housing in Barnet</u> | 33 |
| DM08 | <u>Ensuring a variety of sizes of new homes to meet housing need</u> | 35 |
| DM09 | <u>Specialist housing – Houses in Multiple Occupation, student accommodation and housing choice for older people</u> | 38 |
| DM10 | <u>Affordable housing contributions</u> | 40 |
| DM11 | <u>Development principles for Barnet's town centres</u> | 47 |
| DM12 | <u>Maintaining our local centres and parades</u> | 49 |
| DM13 | <u>Community and education uses</u> | 52 |
| DM14 | <u>New and existing employment space</u> | 55 |
| DM15 | <u>Green Belt and open spaces</u> | 59 |
| DM16 | <u>Biodiversity</u> | 63 |
| DM17 | <u>Travel impact and parking standards</u> | 69 |
| DM18 | <u>Telecommunications</u> | 71 |

1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 The Local Plan replaces the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) (adopted May 2006). It embodies spatial planning – the practice of ‘place shaping’ to deliver positive social, economic and environmental outcomes and provide the overarching local policy framework for delivering sustainable development in Barnet. The Local Plan is described as a ‘folder’ of separate documents, the most important of which is the Core Strategy. This contains the ‘vision’ for the Local Plan and the most fundamental, cross-cutting objectives and policies that the local authority and its partners seek to deliver.
- 1.1.2 Barnet’s Local Plan primarily consists of a suite of Development Plan Documents (DPD’s), the Proposals Map and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs)
- the Core Strategy DPD
 - the Site Allocations DPD which identifies future sites for development
 - the Development Management Policies DPD which sets out the policy framework for decision making on planning applications
 - the Mill Hill East Area Action Plan DPD (adopted January 2009)
 - the Colindale Area Action Plan DPD (adopted March 2010)
 - the emerging North London Waste Plan DPD (submission early 2012)
 - a suite of ‘supplementary planning documents’ and ‘design guidance notes’ which provide more detailed guidance on determining planning applications and S106 requirements
 - the Local Development Scheme for Barnet which sets out the timetable for the above documents
 - the Statement of Community Involvement which sets out the principles on how Barnet will consult with the community
 - the Annual Monitoring Report which assesses the performance of the Local Plan and identifies significant trends affecting Barnet
- 1.1.3 Government policy towards spatial planning is contained in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The NPPF sets out the Government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions. At the heart of the NPPF is the presumption in favour of sustainable development. This presumption is reflected locally in Core Strategy Policy CS NPPF which sets out how we will take a positive approach in considering development proposals. If a local interpretation of national planning policy is proposed, then this must be justified.
- 1.1.4 In December 2010 the Coalition Government introduced the Localism Bill as part of its objective to shift power back into the hands of individuals, communities and local authorities and give local people a real share in growth. The main features of the Bill are :
- introduction of new freedoms and flexibilities for local government
 - introduction of new rights and powers for communities and individuals
 - reform to make the planning system more democratic and more effective
 - reform to ensure that decisions about housing are taken locally.
- 1.1.5 The Localism Bill introduces Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDPs) known as Neighbourhood Plans, and the potential for planning permission to be granted through Neighbourhood Development Orders (NDOs) and Community Right to Build Orders

(CRBOs). Table 1 in the Core Strategy explains how the introduction of Neighbourhood Plans will operate at a local level.

1.2 Development Management

- 1.2.1 The Local Plan Development Management Policies (DMP) DPD sets out the borough-wide planning policies that implement the Core Strategy and will be used for day to day decision making by the Planning Service and for planning committee determinations. The DMP DPD sets out the policy basis for delivering the long-term spatial vision and strategic place-shaping objectives in Barnet which are set out in the Core Strategy.
- 1.2.2 Development management is a shift in approach from the former development control and involves seeking balanced planning decisions that support positive and sustainable development but resist inappropriate or harmful schemes. It aims to solve problems rather than create compromise that pleases no one. In many respects Barnet is already delivering this approach through the Three Strands Approach of protection, enhancement and consolidated growth.

1.3 Policy content

- 1.3.1 In line with the Government's NPPF in paragraph 154, only policies that are clear on what development will or will not be permitted and where should be included in the Local Plan. As stated in NPPF paragraph 17 they should provide a practical framework within which decisions on planning applications can be made with a high degree of predictability and efficiency. Repetition of national and London Plan policy is avoided. More use of national policy and London Plan policy for decision making is now expected rather than developing local policy to cover all possible scenarios. To facilitate this, boxes containing some of the relevant national and London Plan policy are included for each policy.
- 1.3.2 National planning policy is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework. The NPPF must be taken into account in the preparation of Local Plans and is a material consideration in planning decisions. The London Plan sets out at a regional level an integrated social, economic and environmental strategic framework for London's future development. Development Management policies will be required to conform with these national and regional documents.
- 1.3.3 Policies are longer in length than those in the UDP to deal with a wider policy remit. They are more detailed in places and specific to reflect the distinctive character and issues of Barnet as a high quality, successful London borough. Each policy is preceded by a background section which explains how the policy will be applied.

1.4 Brent Cross Cricklewood

- 1.4.1 A hybrid planning application to establish a masterplan and framework for the comprehensive regeneration of the Brent Cross Cricklewood Area in accordance with relevant development plan policies was submitted by a partnership of key landowners and developers (BXC Development Partners) in March 2008. This followed and resulted in extensive pre and post application consultation with the council, the GLA, Transport for London, the Highways Agency, the Environment Agency and other agencies and stakeholders including the local community. In November 2009 the council resolved to approve the hybrid application subject to completion of a Section 106 Agreement. On 28 October 2010 the Section 106 Agreement was completed and the hybrid planning permission for the BXC development was granted.
- 1.4.2 In December 2005 together with the Mayor for London we adopted the Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Regeneration Area Development Framework as Supplementary Planning Guidance. The Development Framework was prepared in parallel with the development of UDP policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood. This

suite of UDP policies were saved by the Direction issued by the Secretary of State on 13 May 2009.

- 1.4.3 In view of the progress that has been made towards the implementation of the saved UDP policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood we consider that it is inappropriate to replace them. In order to provide a policy framework to secure the future comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross Cricklewood these 'saved' policies will continue to operate until it is considered appropriate to replace them. It is intended that the Development Management policies in this DPD will not apply to the development of the Brent Cross Cricklewood Regeneration Scheme unless and until the Core Strategy or this DPD is reviewed (or a further local development document is adopted which has the effect of applying any such DM policies to that scheme) in accordance with the monitoring and review process outlined in the Core Strategy at Policy CS 2 and at section 20.13. Any other planning applications not directly related to the comprehensive redevelopment of Brent Cross Cricklewood Regeneration area will be considered against relevant policies in this DPD and any other material planning considerations.

1.5 Evidence Base and sustainability appraisal

- 1.5.1 Evidence supports the Local Plan documents by ensuring they are justified. Studies have been produced on the following: open spaces, the borough's housing needs, the character of the borough, including an assessment of tall buildings, employment land, the town centres and affordable housing. This is not the limit of the evidence with further studies identified in the Core Strategy.
- 1.5.2 The preparation work on the DMP DPD included a sustainability appraisal to assess its environmental, social and economic impacts. This helps ensure that any harmful impacts of the policies are identified and suggests ways that they can be minimised. In line with guidance and the iterative nature of the process, the report draws on and repeats information contained in the Core Strategy sustainability appraisal and the Scoping Report.
- 1.5.3 Preparation work also included an assessment of the DMP policies to see whether they are likely to have any significant effect on sites of European importance for habitats or species.

1.6 Relationship with the Core Strategy

- 1.6.1 As highlighted above the DMP DPD delivers the approach set out in the Core Strategy. The DMP policies will be used for day to day decision making by the Planning Service and provide additional detail and guidance on how the council will make decisions on applications for planning permission. Throughout the DMP DPD cross references are made to the policies in the Core Strategy. This enables both documents to be read in conjunction when considering a planning application.
- 1.6.2 The table in Appendix 3 shows how individual policies in this document relate to the policies in the Core Strategy and which policies they replace in the UDP. Also the policies in the DMP DPD are structured in a similar manner to those in the Core Strategy.

1.7 Monitoring

- 1.7.1 The DMP DPD is not a static document. Monitoring mechanisms make it a living document that is capable of being changed in part or in full over the plan period. We will monitor the effectiveness of the DMP DPD in delivering its objectives by assessing its performance against a series of indicators. Specific indicators are set out for each policy in the DMP DPD. These are set out in Appendix 2. Each year we publish an Annual Monitoring Report. This will:

- assess the performance of the DMP DPD and other Local Plan documents following their adoption
- identify the need to reassess or review any policies or approaches
- make sure the context and assumptions behind our approach are still relevant; and
- identify trends in the wider social, economic and environmental issues facing Barnet.

1.8 Implementation

- 1.8.1 The Core Strategy sets the most fundamental cross-cutting objectives and policies that the council and its partners will seek to deliver. Core Strategy policy CS 15 states that the council will use planning obligations where appropriate alongside other suitable funding mechanisms to support the delivery of infrastructure, facilities and services to meet needs generated by development and mitigate the impact of development.
- 1.8.2 The council will use planning obligations in appropriate circumstances and in accordance with the NPPF (paragraphs 203 to 205), to influence the nature of a development or mitigate or compensate for its potential affects. Where existing and planned provision of infrastructure, facilities and services are inadequate to meet the needs generated by a proposal, we will negotiate planning obligations to secure measures to meet those needs.
- 1.8.3 Planning obligations can help to contribute to the success of a development and achieve our aims for a site, its local area and the borough as a whole. They can enhance the quality of a development and enable proposals to go ahead that would otherwise be refused. Planning obligations will only be sought where it is not possible to deal with the matter through the imposition of a condition on a planning permission. The items sought through a planning obligation will vary depending on the development scheme and its location. Barnet's main considerations for planning obligations are set out in the Core Strategy.
- 1.8.4 In considering planning obligations, we will take into account the range of benefits a development provides. The extent to which a development is publicly funded will also be taken into account and policy applied flexibly in such cases. Pooled contributions will be used when the combined impact of a number of schemes creates the need for infrastructure or works, although such pooling will only take place within the restrictions of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010.
- 1.8.5 We will develop a Barnet Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) as this represents the most appropriate way to support delivery of the aims of the Local Plan. Such an approach will replace our current approach of using standard formulae to calculate contributions towards providing school places, libraries and healthcare across all developments. Set out in the April 2010 Regulations, new restrictions on the use of planning obligations have been introduced in order for the two mechanisms (planning obligations and CIL) to complement each other. Existing Planning Obligations guidance must be replaced with a new 'charging schedule' by July 2014.
- 1.8.6 Revisions to the Planning Obligations SPD will be implemented concurrently with the adoption of a CIL for Barnet. Until the council's SPD on Planning Obligations is revised, additional detail on our approach and the processes for consideration and flexibility regarding planning obligations is set out in the Interim Guidance Note on Section 106 which has been brought forward in response to the recession.

2. Protecting Barnet's character and amenity

- 2.1.1 Core Strategy Policy CS5: Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character to Create High Quality Places highlights that development in Barnet should respect the local context and distinctive local character, creating places and buildings of high quality design. As part of this, development should enhance all areas that make Barnet such an interesting, diverse and attractive place to live. This policy applies to all development in the borough.

Table 2.1: National and London Plan character and amenity guidance

The National Planning Policy Framework states that the planning system ought to "take account of the different roles and character of different areas" and "always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings" (NPPF: Core planning principles: paragraph 17)

National policy states that "It is important to plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development, including individual buildings, public and private spaces and wider area development schemes." (NPPF: Paragraph 57)

The National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 59 and 60) states the following on design; that "...policies should avoid unnecessary prescription or detail and should concentrate on guiding the overall scale, density, massing, height, landscape, layout, materials and access of new development in relation to neighbouring buildings and the local area more generally."

"Planning policies and decisions should not attempt to impose architectural styles or particular tastes and they should not stifle innovation, originality or initiative through unsubstantiated requirements to conform to certain development forms or styles. It is, however, proper to seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness."

London Plan policy 7.6 sets out the approach towards architecture stating that it "should make a positive contribution to a coherent public realm, streetscape and wider cityscape." The supporting text says that it "should make a positive contribution to the landscape and relate well to the form, proportion, scale and character of streets..."

2.2 High Quality Design

- 2.2.1 The council will not accept designs for new development that are inappropriate to their context or do not take opportunities to improve the character and quality of an area. High quality design solutions help to make new places in the borough which can add to and complement the existing suburban character. Contemporary design may be appropriate provided it has regard to the local context.
- 2.2.2 Using this policy combined with Policy DM02: Development Standards, which sets out the particular standards important for Barnet, will ensure development makes a positive contribution to the borough.

- 2.2.3 Climate change is one of the greatest challenges the world is facing and a key priority for Barnet's future is to reduce the borough's carbon footprint where possible particularly in new development. Reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and adapting to future climate change are the priorities.
- 2.2.4 Mitigating the emissions which cause climate change through reducing energy use is important to protect against the impacts of climate change which in the long term could affect the boroughs character and amenity. New development should provide the opportunity to meet the highest standards of energy efficiency and minimise carbon emissions. Adapting to climate change means that we are better prepared for the following possibilities; increased frequency and severity of flooding, water shortages, hotter summers, rising energy costs and increased risk of damage to homes and infrastructure.

2.3 Character

- 2.3.1 The Characterisation Study (September 2010) provides a detailed assessment and understanding of the characteristics of Barnet's built environment. It identifies the different architectural typologies and character areas in the borough and the pressures they face.
- 2.3.2 The 'suburbs' cover a large proportion of the built environment in the borough (see figure 1). The Characterisation Study identifies differences between traditional and more modern building styles found in recent conversions and replacement buildings. The existing traditional housing stock is almost always vertically orientated with window bays and pitched roofs. More modern developments are usually more horizontal in form often with balconies and flat roofs, larger bulk and building footprint. When built in close proximity to each other these building styles can clash diminishing the uniformity, rhythm and pattern of suburban character. Owing to this impact on character loss of houses in roads predominantly characterised by the same typology of houses will not normally be appropriate. Further guidance on loss of houses will be set out in the Residential Design Guidance SPD.

Secondary Typologies
(Plan by Urban Practitioners 2009)

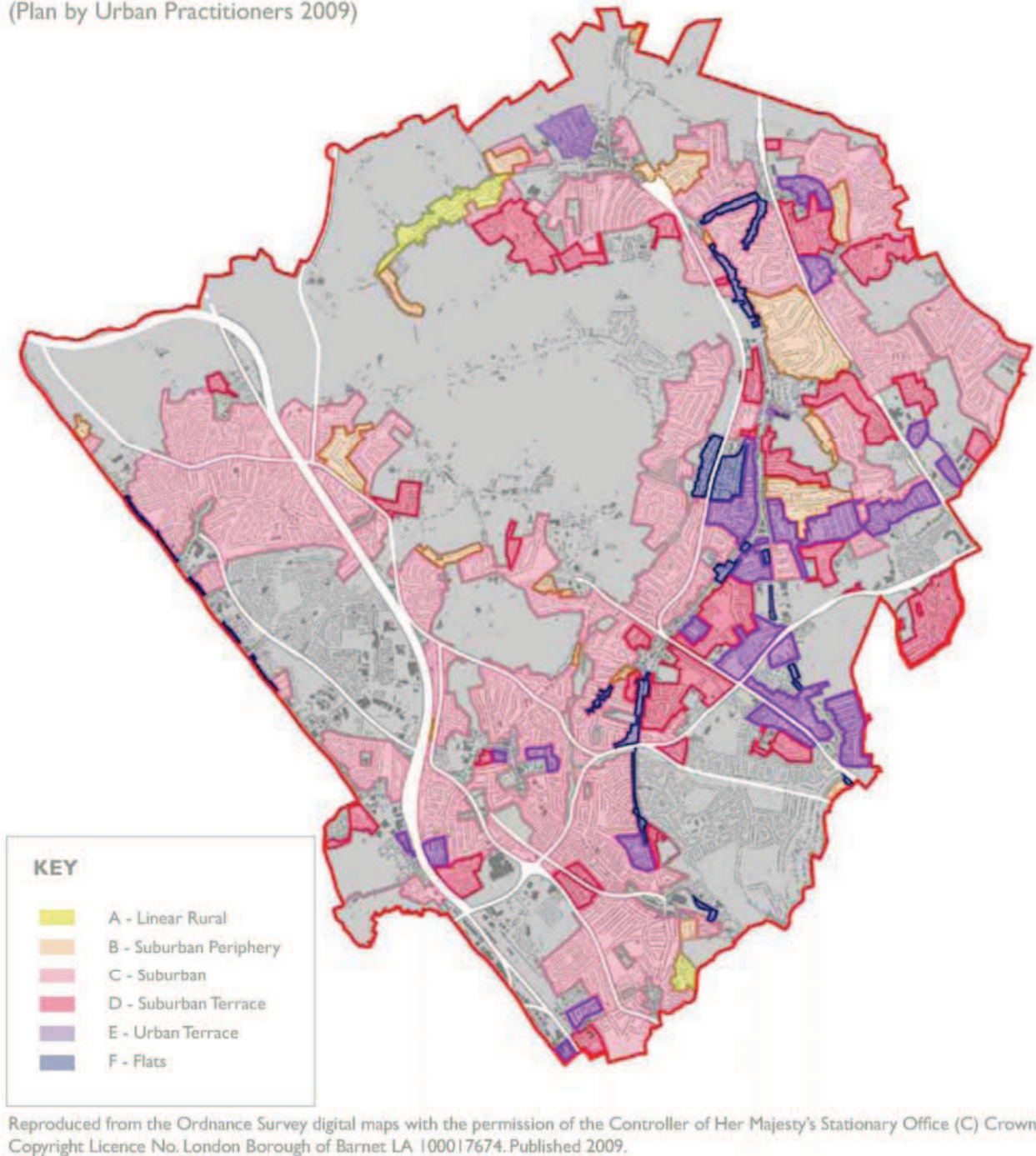


Figure 1 – Map of Barnet showing the spread of residential typologies

- 2.3.3 The suburban type of housing is the commonest typology (see typologies C & D in figure 1 above) in the borough dominated by housing built during the inter war period. Suburban housing is typically two storey detached and semi detached property with front and rear gardens sometimes with a grass verge (see paragraph 2.3.5 for layout). The other housing typologies in Barnet are detached, suburban terraced, urban terraced, flats and linear-rural detached. Barnet's urban terraces include some of the borough's most dense residential housing; they were predominantly built during the Victorian and Edwardian periods. Terraced streets have a strong coherent appearance due to the consistent and rhythmic architectural style and consistent street profile, usually with on-street parking.

- 2.3.4 Flatted development, detached, and linear-rural detached are the least common housing types in Barnet. The lowest density linear-rural detached and detached housing is generally found on the edge of the green belt.
- 2.3.5 The diagram below (taken from the Characterisation Study) shows the layout of a typical suburban street typology in Barnet. This type of housing, predominantly detached and semi detached with front and rear gardens, predominates in Barnet.

Figure 2 – Plan of Barnet Suburban Typology



- 2.3.6 Suburban terraces are lower density than their urban counterparts with a more varied architectural style. These terraces sometimes have off street parking and a grass verge. This pattern of development and street layout is replicated across the borough and the layout of new development should take this into account.
- 2.3.7 Protecting character helps to maintain Barnet’s heritage. Policy DM01: Protecting Barnet’s character and amenity states that development proposals should preserve or enhance local character and respect the appearance, scale, mass, height and pattern of surrounding buildings, spaces and streets. In order to protect character Policy DM01: Protecting Barnet’s character and amenity requires development to demonstrate a good understanding of the local characteristics of an area. Proposals which are out of keeping with the character of an area will be refused.
- 2.3.8 Character can be eroded through small incremental changes to houses such as replacement windows, doors, roofing materials, loss of gardens and trees, as well as larger scale changes such as loft conversions and extensions. This type of suburban development can cumulatively have a considerable impact on the existing character of the borough. Residents can exercise their permitted development rights to make certain small scale alterations to their houses and the council can manage development that requires consent through considered design advice.
- 2.3.9 Whilst the policy intention is to protect local character, it should not be used to restrict well designed and sympathetic development which meets other objectives in the Core Strategy, Development Management Policies DPD, the council’s suite of Design Guidance Notes and Supplementary Planning Documents. The Characterisation Study should be referred to for a more detailed description of the typologies and used as a tool to help judge the effect of a development on character. The Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Residential Design Guidance will provide more specific

requirements on development that is suitable for Barnet's distinctive suburban character.

2.4 Character in town centres

- 2.4.1 Some of Barnet's town centres such as Golders Green, Finchley Church End and Chipping Barnet are designated as conservation areas yet face increasing pressure from development. The design of new buildings and shopfronts can have a significant impact on the appearance and character of a shopping area, particularly where fascias and adverts are changed without careful thought. New or altered shopfronts should be designed to respect the building of which they are part as well as any adjoining shopfronts and the general street scene. The council will resist the loss of traditional features and historic shopfronts which contribute positively to the appearance of a building or an area. Updated design guidance on Shopfronts is available to provide more in depth design guidance.

2.5 Advertising

- 2.5.1 Advertising can look unattractive if poorly sited and designed. The amenity impacts and safety implications of all advertisements will be carefully considered. Permission will not be given for proposals which detract from the character of a building or street. Design guidance on Advertising and Signs is available on the council's website. This also identifies the 'Areas of Special Advertisement Control' in the borough that were designated in 1993.

2.6 Security in design

- 2.6.1 A well-designed environment can help to reduce the real and perceived risk of crime. The design and layout of buildings, open spaces, roads and footpaths can influence opportunities to commit crime and also affect people's sense of safety and security. Appropriate design and layout of landscaping, planting and lighting can reduce crime and the fear of crime. Development proposals should be designed to provide safety within the development site and in nearby and adjacent areas. The guidance set out in Secured by Design, the standard produced by the Metropolitan Police is identified under Policy DM02: Development Standards.
- 2.6.2 Visual interest on a street can be created by entrances, windows and shopfronts which helps contribute to a sense of security. Blank facades on a street create a dead frontage with no interest and can be part of a building, boundary wall or fence or roller shutter to a shopfront. In particular larger windows or shopfronts can make a more positive contribution to the vibrancy of frontages. This is most important in town centres, local centres or on major roads where active frontages should be incorporated at street level to contribute to the vibrancy of a street.

2.7 Amenity

- 2.7.1 Schemes which significantly harm the amenity of neighbouring occupiers will be refused planning permission. Protecting amenity helps to protect the well being of the boroughs residents. It is important to ensure that developments do not significantly overshadow neighbouring buildings, block daylight, reduce sunlight, or result in a loss of privacy or outlook.
- 2.7.2 Further detail on day lighting, sun lighting, privacy and outlook will be contained in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.
- 2.7.3 Lighting can also affect amenity by creating light spillage and increasing glare. Proposals involving new lighting should demonstrate they will not significantly impact on residential amenity. Proposals should seek to minimise any adverse impact of lighting schemes through design or technological solutions or by controlling the hours of use. Solutions may include lighting that controls the distribution of light and minimises glare. Design solutions could include screening, shielding, reducing lantern

mounting heights and minimising glare. The visual impact of light fittings should also be considered. Further details are set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

- 2.7.4 Noise can reduce the quality of life of people living or working in the borough. Planning controls can help to minimise noise disturbance in new developments with planning conditions used to control the operating hours of a particular source of noise. Planning conditions can also be used to reduce the effects of noise on nearby noise sensitive residential uses, for example by screening with natural barriers or through considered placement of buildings. Policy DM04: Environmental Considerations sets out policy on noise and further details are set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

2.8 Conversions

- 2.8.1 The conversion of existing dwellings into flats can have a cumulative effect that is damaging to the quality of the environment and detracts from the character of established residential areas. Conversions may be appropriate in certain types of property or street particularly where they are highly accessible. However, even in such locations they can harm the character of areas by changing external appearance and increasing activity. Such activity can often involve more people movements, increased car movements and parking stress, more rubbish to be collected and more deliveries.
- 2.8.2 Where conversions are acceptable any external alterations should seek to minimise their impact on the external appearance of the property and local character. Conversions must also be able to satisfactorily address all other relevant policies in the DPD including the need to consider the dwelling size priorities set out in Policy DM08 and the approach to parking management set out in Policy DM17. Further guidance on conversions will be set out in the Residential Design Guidance SPD.

2.9 Gardens

- 2.9.1 Gardens make a significant contribution to local character. They provide the natural element of residential character contributing towards biodiversity, tranquillity, sense of space and enhancement of the setting of buildings. Development that impacts the character created by gardens can include large extensions and infill development. Development which is considered to be detrimental to local character will be refused. Further guidance on development in gardens will be set out in the Residential Design Guidance SPD.
- 2.9.2 Gardens also provide outdoor amenity value for residents. Further detail is contained in section 3.8 and minimum outdoor amenity space standards are set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

2.10 Landscaping and trees

- 2.10.1 High quality landscape design can help to create spaces that provide attractive settings for both new and existing buildings, contributing to the integration of a development into the established character of an area. Hard and soft landscaping proposals should make a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the site and the surrounding area.
- 2.10.2 Landscaping should be included as an integral part of any development proposal at an early stage and landscaping schemes should be approved before work on site commences. Careful consideration should be given to the existing character of a site, its topography and how any features such as planting, trees, surface treatments, furniture, lighting, walls, fences and other structures are to be appropriately used. More detailed advice about the use of landscaping is provided in both the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD and the Green Infrastructure SPD. The Sustainable Design and Construction SPD also sets out the minimum outdoor amenity space

standards. Further advice is set out in a Design Guidance Note on Walls, Fences and Gates.

- 2.10.3 The council will seek to retain existing wildlife habitats such as trees, shrubs, ponds and hedges wherever possible. Where trees are located on or adjacent to a site the council will require the submission of a tree survey with planning applications indicating the location, species, size and condition of trees. Trees should be retained wherever possible and any removal will need to be justified in the survey. Where removal of trees and other habitat can be justified appropriate replacement should consider both habitat creation and amenity value.
- 2.10.4 The proper management of well-landscaped areas is vital to ensure their survival and to preserve their attractiveness. Management should also be sympathetic to wildlife adjacent to water courses and should promote ecological interests. Where appropriate, the council will seek to ensure the protection of good quality landscaping through the use of conditions and legal agreements. During building operations we will expect that adequate precautions will be taken to ensure that existing trees and other landscape features are not damaged.
- 2.10.5 Trees make an important contribution to the character and appearance of the borough. Trees which are healthy and are of high amenity value can be protected by the making of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Tree Preservation Orders can help to protect trees from inappropriate treatment and prevent their removal, as permission must first be sought from the council to carry out most types of tree surgery. Appropriate protection of TPO trees and those identified for retention will be expected in line with good practice during construction of a development.
- 2.10.6 If a tree is dead, dying or dangerous then it may be acceptable to remove the tree but they should be replaced by suitable species of appropriate size. Further detail on this is provided in the Green Infrastructure SPD.
- 2.10.7 Changes to front gardens such as paving over lawns or established planting can cumulatively affect the wider character of an area, often in a harmful way. However, depending on its scale and detailing, paving over front gardens does not always require planning permission. The council expects changes to front gardens to consider the wider impact on character and also reduce surface water run-off. Design Guidance Note 3 – The Construction of Hardstandings and Vehicular Crossovers advises how to design a front garden with a hardstanding.

Policy DM01: Protecting Barnet’s character and amenity

- a. All development should represent high quality design which demonstrates high levels of environmental awareness and contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- b. Development proposals should be based on an understanding of local characteristics. Proposals should preserve or enhance local character and respect the appearance, scale, mass, height and pattern of surrounding buildings, spaces and streets.
- c. Development proposals should ensure attractive, safe and, where appropriate, vibrant streets which provide visual interest, particularly at street level and avoid blank walls.
- d. Development proposals should create safe and secure environments and reduce opportunities for crime and minimise the fear of crime.

- e. Development proposals should be designed to allow for adequate daylight, sunlight, privacy and outlook for adjoining and potential occupiers and users.
- f. Development proposals for lighting schemes should not have a demonstrably harmful impact on residential amenity or biodiversity.
- g. Development proposals should retain outdoor amenity space having regard to its character.
- h. Conversion of dwellings into flats in roads characterised by houses will not normally be appropriate
- i. Loss of houses in roads characterised by houses will not normally be appropriate
- j. Development proposals will be required to include hard and soft landscaping that:
 - i. Is well laid out in terms of access, car parking and landscaping
 - ii. Considers the impact of hardstandings on character
 - iii. Achieve a suitable visual setting for the building
 - iv. Provide an appropriate level of new habitat including tree and shrub planting
 - v. Make a positive contribution to the surrounding area
 - vi. Contributes to biodiversity including the retention of existing wildlife habitat and trees
 - vii. Adequately protects existing trees and their root systems
- k. Trees should be safeguarded. When protected trees are to be felled the council will require replanting with suitable size and species of tree where appropriate.

Useful References

- Barnet Characterisation Study, 2010
- By Design : Urban Design in the Planning System, CABI, 2000
- Circular 03/2007 Town And Country Planning (Control Of Advertisements) (England) Regulations
- Design Guidance Note 1 - Advertising and Signs, 1993
- Design Guidance Note 3 – The Construction of Hardstandings and Vehicular Crossovers, 2010
- Design Guidance Note 5 - Extensions to Houses, 2010
- Design Guidance Note 7 - Residential Conversions, 1994
- Design Guidance Note 9 – Walls, Fences and Gates, 1994
- Design Guidance Note 10 – Shopfronts, 1996
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

3. Development standards

- 3.1.1 Core Strategy Policy CS1: Barnet's Place Shaping Strategy – the Three Strands Approach seeks the highest standards of urban design. Poorly designed, unattractive and unsympathetic development can have a greater impact than just looking out of place. It can have an impact on the quality of life with links made with poor physical health and mental health. For example development which has inadequate internal space or amenity space, which does not respond to the surrounding character or turns its back on the street creates a low quality environment for everyone.
- 3.1.2 The development standards set out in Policy DM02: Development Standards are regarded as key for Barnet to deliver the highest standards of urban design. These development standards will be supported by a suite of Supplementary Planning Documents which will be identified where relevant.

Table 3.1 National and London Plan guidance on standards

The National Planning Policy Framework states that Local plans should develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area. Such policies should be based on stated objectives for the future of the area and an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics. (NPPF: Paragraph 58)

The NPPF further states that “Local planning authorities should set out their policy on local standards in the Local Plan, including requirements for affordable housing.” (NPPF: Paragraph 174)

All new housing should be built to lifetime homes standard and 10% should be wheelchair accessible (Policy 3.8 London Plan).

All new development should meet minimum dwelling space size standards (Policy 3.5 in the London Plan).

The Mayor's Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) on Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Recreation sets out accessibility benchmarks using maximum walking distances for children (100m for the under 5's, 400m for 5-11 year olds and 800m for ages 12+).

3.2 By Design

- 3.2.1 The document produced by CABI in 2000, 'By Design' sets out good practice principles which will be used to assess applications for developments of all sizes, in particular major development applications. The council will take into account the principles set out in By Design, to ensure development makes a positive contribution to the borough. The Residential Design Guidance SPD expands on the principles in relation to the suburban residential typologies in Barnet.

3.3 Lifetime Homes

- 3.3.1 The council supports Lifetime Homes standards, creating lifetime neighbourhoods and wheelchair accessible development. Lifetime Homes standards include 16 design

criteria which can be applied to new homes at minimal cost to ensure that homes support the changing needs of individuals and families at different stages of their lives. All development will be expected to comply with Lifetime Homes. Lifetime neighbourhoods are where transport, shops, green spaces and other facilities, toilets, and benches, are consciously planned with people of all ages and conditions in mind. The Sustainable Design and Construction SPD sets out the application of Lifetime Homes standards in Barnet.

3.4 Code for Sustainable Homes

- 3.4.1 The Code is intended as a single national standard which measures the sustainability of a home against design categories, rating the 'whole home' as a complete package. The Code helps to provide a route map for future Building Regulations requirements, and to this end represents a means to enable developers to prepare for new Building Regulations when they are implemented. It contains a rating system from Code Level 1 to 6.
- 3.4.2 The council will apply the Code for Sustainable Homes assessment to monitor the delivery of more environmentally aware residential development and achieve the Mayor's policy on climate change. Further detail is set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

3.5 BREEAM

- 3.5.1 The Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) is widely used to assess non residential development for its environmental accreditation. BREEAM (Offices), BREEAM (Retail) are both examples of the different types of building that this environmental assessment method can assess. They are nationally and internationally recognised and managed by the Building Research Establishment (BRE). The Sustainable Design and Construction SPD sets out further detail on how we will apply this standard to non residential development.

3.6 Wheelchair accessibility

- 3.6.1 Wheelchair users should have access to a full range of housing types. The council will expect 10% of new homes to be either fully wheelchair accessible or be easily adapted to meet them. In particular the specialist housing types covered under policy DM09: 'Specialist Housing' should consider access. The Sustainable Design and Construction SPD sets out further detail on wheelchair accessible homes.

3.7 Minimum floor space

- 3.7.1 The council will apply the space standards that are set out in the London Plan. These set a minimum gross internal floor area for new homes, relative to the number of occupants. Further detail on the London Plan minimum space standards will be set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD. There may be exceptions, for example in some regeneration areas or in core town centre developments where other amenity benefits are secured. The council will consider these on a case by case basis.

3.8 Outdoor Amenity Space

- 3.8.1 The provision of outdoor amenity space is an important consideration for residential development. Residential units with insufficient garden outdoor amenity space are unlikely to provide good living conditions for future occupiers. As set out in paragraph 2.9.1 one of the key qualities of Barnet's suburban character is its significant amount of garden space.
- 3.8.2 The role and function of amenity space as well as its location in relation to dwellings has a bearing on provision. A front garden area is a semi private space where greater overlooking is acceptable and desirable, which may be used for bin storage and as a front setting. A back garden is a more private space which has restricted access and

will be used accordingly. Confusing the use of space may compromise and limit the potential use of garden space and may result in low quality amenity space. Not all outdoor amenity space will be considered useable and able to contribute to amenity provision.

- 3.8.3 Guidance on the standards, for outdoor amenity space will be set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD. Any garden development which compromises these minimum standards will not be permitted. In town centres and for some higher density schemes including tall buildings it may not be feasible for development to provide individual private garden space. In these instances the development should make a financial contribution to the nearest appropriate green space to compensate for the lack of private garden space. The provision of shared communal gardens in flatted developments may allow suburban character to be maintained outside town centres. It also prevents the subdivision of open amenity space and thereby contributes to a better appearance.

3.9 Secured by Design

- 3.9.1 The principles set out in the national Police initiative, 'Secured by Design' should be considered in development proposals. Where appropriate, issues of safety will be referred to the relevant Metropolitan Police Authority design advisors. The council will require legal agreements to ensure improvements in safety. Further guidance is provided in the Residential Design Guidance SPD.

3.10 Play space

- 3.10.1 The Core Strategy identifies the locations of Barnet's play areas (Map 11). There are 49 sites that provide formal play space. Less than half of the parks in Barnet have play areas and, only 46% of Barnet residents are within 600m of a formal equipped play area. In the future the need for play space will increase as Barnet's population is getting younger.
- 3.10.2 Both residential development in areas of play space deficiency and residential development in areas with sufficient play space will be expected to make a contribution either on site or financially for play space. In areas where a deficiency in play space is identified, residential developments will be required to provide facilities on site and provide appropriate contributions to maintain them, or where appropriate provide a financial contribution to improve the nearest appropriate play area. Residential development in areas with sufficient play space will still be required to make a financial contribution to the nearest appropriate existing play facility or provide new facilities on site. The Mayor of London's SPG: Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation requires that provision for children under five is provided on site (within 100m) to ensure they can access play space. Improvements to existing facilities are necessary, given the priority for family housing in the borough.
- 3.10.3 Aspects in relation to policies DM01: Protecting Barnet's character and amenity, DM03: Accessibility and Inclusive Design and DM04: Environmental Considerations will also need to be considered such as safety and disturbance.

3.11 Other standards and assessments

- 3.11.1 European Community (EC) Directive 97/11/EC requires the environmental impact assessment (EIA) of major projects. The effect of the Directive is to require environmental impact assessment to be carried out, before development consent is granted, for certain types¹ of major project which are judged likely to have significant environmental effects. EIA is an important procedure for ensuring that the likely effects of new development on the environment are fully understood and taken into account

¹ Further detail is set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

before the development is allowed to go ahead. It also sets out the actions required to mitigate any harmful effects (Circular 02/99).

- 3.11.2 *Building for Life* was established by CABI in association with the Home Builders Federation as the national standard for well designed homes and neighbourhoods. It promotes design excellence and celebrates best practice in the house building industry. Housing developments are assessed against the criteria to measure the quality of their design.
- 3.11.3 A Health Impact Assessment (HIA) is a means of assessing the health impacts of policies, plans and projects, particularly on disadvantaged groups. Created by the World Health Organisation many countries have now adopted this approach. The impact of development on health can be assessed to ensure that impacts such as road safety, pollution and flooding are considered. The *Watch Out for Health* checklist for assessing the health impacts of planning proposals is recommended for use during the evaluation of a scheme, particularly very large and comprehensive schemes.
- 3.11.4 Many aspects of HIA which help improve a developments positive contribution to health are already established as standards such as the provision of play space, minimum floor space standards and outdoor amenity space.

Policy DM02: Development standards

Where appropriate, development will be expected to demonstrate compliance with the following national and Londonwide standards supported by the guidance set out in the council's suite of Supplementary Planning Documents:

1. By Design, the CABI urban design principles
2. Lifetime homes, the 16 design criteria required by the London Plan policy 3.8
3. Code for Sustainable Homes, the national standard for sustainable homes
4. BREEAM, the environmental assessment method for non residential development
5. Wheelchair accessibility, the London Plan policy 3.8
6. Minimum floor space, the London Plan policy 3.5
7. Outdoor amenity space, the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD
8. Secured by Design, the national Police initiative
9. Play space, the London Plan policy 3.6

Useful References

- BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method)
www.breeam.org/
- Building for Life Standards, see www.buildingforlife.org/
- By Design : Urban Design in the Planning System, CABI, 2000
- Circular 02/99: Environmental Impact Assessment, ODPM, 1999
- Code for Sustainable Homes: A step change in sustainable home building practice; CLG. December 2006
- Design and Access Statement Guidance
- Design for Play: A Guide to Successful Play Spaces, DCFS, 2008
- London Housing Design Guide, GLA. 2010
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Principles of Inclusive Design (They Include You) - CABI, 2006
- Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation SPG, GLA, 2008
- Secured by Design
www.securedbydesign.com/
- Sustainable Design and Construction SPD

Note 2007

<http://www.barnet.gov.uk/design-access-guidance-oct07.pdf>

- Design and access statements: how to write, read and use them, CABI, 2006

- Watch Out for Health; NHS London Healthy Urban Development Unit; 2009

4. Accessibility and Inclusive Design

- 4.1.1 Core Strategy policy CS5: Protecting and enhancing Barnet’s character to create high quality places sets out the key principles of inclusive design. Inclusive design is fundamental to improving the quality of life for all Barnet’s residents particularly the disabled and older people. As a process it is intended to make the built environment safe, accessible and convenient to help ensure that people can access the jobs, opportunities and facilities that they need.

Table 4.1 National and London Plan guidance on inclusive design

The NPPF definition of inclusive design is: “Designing the built environment, including buildings and their surrounding spaces, to ensure that they can be accessed and used by everyone.”

National policy states that “It is important to plan positively for the achievement of high quality and inclusive design for all development, including individual buildings, public and private spaces and wider area development schemes.” (NPPF: Paragraph 57)

The London Plan in policy 7.2 sets out that “Boroughs should develop detailed policies and proposals that ensure the physical environment can meet the highest standards of accessibility and inclusion and that the principles of inclusive design are adopted at the earliest stages of the development ...” It sets out four principles of inclusive design for developments to demonstrate.

- 4.1.2 To help ensure an accessible environment the London Plan policy 7.2 sets out the four principles of inclusive design; safety, convenience, flexibility and realism. These are set out in full in Policy DM03: Accessibility and Inclusive Design below and should be demonstrated in an applicant’s design and access statement. Further guidance includes:
- Accessible London: Achieving an Inclusive Environment; Supplementary Planning Guidance published by the GLA,
 - Inclusive Mobility, published by the Department for Transport and
 - Principles of Inclusive Design (They Include You) published by CABE.
- 4.1.3 Good design should reflect the diversity of people who use it and not impose barriers of any kind. People with disabilities in our community should be able to access the places everyone else takes for granted. Development proposals should ensure that the needs of people with all types of mobility difficulties, both physical and sensory, are taken into account when considering the design of development proposals. This includes extensions to all buildings particularly those used by the general public such as shops and community facilities.
- 4.1.4 Policy DM02: Development Standards sets out the need to comply with the Mayor’s wheelchair accessibility requirement for housing. Large scale redevelopment which affects or creates new streets, footpaths and public transport infrastructure should also consider Inclusive Mobility standards and the need for shared space in new development.
- 4.1.5 Inclusive Mobility published by the Department for Transport, sets out design guidance for the wider pedestrian environment, public transport and associated infrastructure to respond to the needs of disabled people. Many other people will also benefit from an accessible environment, including those travelling with small children, or carrying luggage or heavy shopping. The wider pedestrian environment also includes improving access to public transport.

- 4.1.6 Policy DM02: Development Standards also set the requirement to meet the Lifetime Homes standards. At the same time we aim to support the creation of lifetime neighbourhoods which support the changing needs of people from childhood to the end of life, and seek to enable people to live in their home for as much of their life as possible.

DM03: Accessibility and inclusive design

Development proposals should meet the highest standards of accessible and inclusive design by demonstrating that they meet the following principles:

- i. can be used safely, easily and with dignity by all regardless of disability, age, gender, ethnicity or economic circumstances
- ii. are convenient and welcoming with no disabling barriers, so everyone can use them independently without undue effort, separation or special treatment
- iii. are flexible and responsive taking account of what different people say they need and want, so people can use them in different ways
- iv. are realistic, offering more than one solution to help balance everyone's needs, recognising that one solution may not work for all.

Useful References

- Accessible London: achieving an inclusive environment, SPG, GLA, 2004
- By Design : Urban Design in the Planning System, CABE, 2000
- Inclusive Mobility, Department for Transport, 2005
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Planning and Access for Disabled People: A Good Practice Guide, ODPM, 2005
- Principles of Inclusive Design (They Include You) - CABE, 2006

5. Environmental Considerations

- 5.1.1 Core Strategy Policy CS9: Ensuring the efficient use of natural resources highlights that reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, adapting to future climate change, ensuring resource use is kept within acceptable levels, promoting biodiversity and improving quality of life are all key objectives for Barnet.

Table 5.1 National and London Plan environmental guidance

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that “The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; ...” (NPPF: Paragraph 109)

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that “Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change,...” (NPPF: paragraph 156)

The Code for Sustainable Homes sets sustainability standards for new housing. The energy and water efficiency targets are stepped in line with improvements in Building Regulations to meet zero carbon in 2016 as set out in the Government's Building A Greener Future: Policy Statement.

The London Plan in Policy 5.3: Sustainable Design and Construction requires developments to demonstrate compliance with the Mayor's Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG), including how to avoid internal overheating and contributions to the urban heat island effect.

London Plan policy 5.4 sets out the Mayor's approach to retrofitting and encourages boroughs to identify opportunities and proposals for reducing carbon dioxide emissions from the existing building stock.

Details of how a development meets Sustainable Design and Construction standards are required to be set out in the Design and Access statement (London Plan policy 5.3). This should include taking account of the Mayor's energy hierarchy (London Plan policy 5.2).

The Mayor's drainage hierarchy (London Plan policy 5.13) identifies storage on site as the priority through to the discharge to the combined sewer as the least favourable choice for dealing with rainwater on a site. The aim is to achieve greenfield run-off rates.

- 5.1.2 New development should provide the opportunity to meet the highest standards of energy efficiency and minimise carbon emissions. A development's design can influence the amount of energy required to heat or cool a building. Glazing, solar control, shading mechanisms and insulation can all help to minimise energy requirements for heating and cooling. This policy is supported by the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

- 5.1.3 All new development should apply the energy hierarchy set out in the London Plan. First development should use less energy: be lean. Second it should supply energy efficiently: be clean. Finally it should use renewable energy: be green. Major development proposals are expected to include a detailed energy assessment and to comply with the hierarchy.
- 5.1.4 The council will apply the Code for Sustainable Homes assessment to monitor the delivery of more environmentally aware residential development and achieve the Mayor's policy on climate change. For non-residential buildings we will use BREEAM (Buildings Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) or any future replacement criteria adopted at national standards level. Further details are set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

5.2 Decentralised Energy

- 5.2.1 The council will prioritise the development of decentralised energy networks. A Decentralised Energy (DE) system produces heat and electricity at or near the point of consumption. When power is generated locally, heat that would normally be wasted can be used – by offices, homes and schools.
- 5.2.2 A high level heat mapping study has identified clusters of buildings and areas of development with the best potential for delivering future district heating networks in the borough. Brent Cross / Cricklewood and Colindale are identified as high priority areas given the scale of regeneration taking place. Chipping Barnet, Mill Hill East, North Finchley and Whetstone are identified as lower priority areas in the study.
- 5.2.3 In line with the London Plan major development² will be expected to connect to an existing DE network where it is appropriate, as this is the most resource efficient option. Equally where a new DE scheme is proposed then a new development will be expected to connect where feasible. Where this is not feasible developments should ensure that they incorporate the ability to connect in the future. Major development proposals in areas identified as feasible for DE in the heat mapping study but where no firm plans exist will require a feasibility study or financial contribution towards a proposed study to implement a new network or extend an existing network. Pooled funding through legal agreements or the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will be put forward in appropriate circumstances.

5.3 Retro fitting

- 5.3.1 In the London Plan policy 5.4 highlights the opportunity that retrofitting existing buildings can make to reducing CO2 emissions. Barnet's housing stock has a relatively high level of carbon emissions compared to the London average. Nearly two thirds of Barnet's housing stock was built before 1944 (compared to a national figure of 40%). Thus there is considerable potential to reduce emissions if this older housing stock can have energy efficiency measures fitted and renewable energy technologies installed and/or be linked to decentralised energy schemes as part of new or refurbished developments. Water efficiency measures can also be retrofitted.

5.4 Air Quality

- 5.4.1 Air pollution is the result of emissions, such as carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide, being released into the atmosphere. The impact of dust, fumes and odour on air quality also need to be considered. The main sources of emissions are transport, combustion and industrial processes. Air pollution has been linked to health problems such as asthma and other respiratory diseases, and damage to the surrounding environment.

² Major developments are defined as 10 or more dwellings or for all other uses where floorspace will be more than 1,000 sq metres. See the Core Strategy glossary for more detail.

- 5.4.2 New development should not reduce air quality and where there are any potential issues the council will require an air quality assessment. Appropriate design measures such as tree planting can protect users of the buildings and surrounding public spaces from existing poor air quality. The council is particularly concerned to protect schools, older people's accommodation and family housing. Further guidance on air quality assessments, location, siting and design, choice of building systems and the management of construction emissions is provided in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.
- 5.4.3 Air pollution in Barnet is monitored by measuring the amount of nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and particulate matter (PM10) in the atmosphere. The council has continuous air quality monitoring stations at Chalgrove School and Tally Ho and maintains a network of diffusion tubes across the borough. These monitor levels of fine particles and nitrogen dioxide informing the Air Quality Action Plan for Barnet and the ongoing review and assessment of air quality in the borough.

5.5 Noise

- 5.5.1 Noise can undermine quality of life and affect natural habitats. This includes persistent and intermittent noises, from service plant on buildings, road traffic, sound systems, construction and domestic noise. Noise considerations are especially important when planning housing, day centres, schools and libraries and in areas of high population density. The separation of noise sensitive development such as residential, health and educational uses from noise generating sources can reduce the effects of noise on those uses. Noise generating sources within the borough include transport routes, commerce, sport, recreation and other leisure time activities. Proposals for noise sensitive development where it is affected by noise generating sources will not be permitted unless satisfactory mitigation measures can be demonstrated.
- 5.5.2 The layout of buildings can be designed or modified to reduce the effects of noise disturbance through the use of measures such as screening with natural barriers or other buildings. Further mitigating measures are set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD. Planning conditions can be used to control the operating hours of a particular noise generating development, or to influence the layout and design of buildings, in order to reduce the effects on noise sensitive uses. The four noise exposure categories set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD will be used to assess residential accommodation which is near to a source of noise.

5.6 Contaminated land

- 5.6.1 For potentially contaminated land, the developer will be required to carry out a Preliminary Risk Assessment which will help determine the potential for contamination at a development site. Where necessary a full site investigation, considering both the possible risk to future users of the site and hazards to ground and surface water quality. Before development can start, planning conditions may require that appropriate remedial measures are agreed with the planning authority and carried out in line with current guidelines, having regard to relevant legislation (Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act and Contaminated Land Regulations). The developer will be required to provide a report verifying that the works have been carried out as agreed. This will normally be achieved by setting conditions on planning permissions.
- 5.6.2 In line with the objectives of the Thames Water River Basin Management Plan the council aims to prevent any development which could lead to a deterioration in the quality of water and work towards improvements. Plans for the remediation of contaminated land or development which could impact water quality will be carefully assessed.

5.7 Notifiable Installations

- 5.7.1 There are two Notifiable Installations within Barnet, the Barnet holder station in New Barnet and the Mill Hill holder station. The facilities are identified because of the large quantities of hazardous substance stored, used or transported. Where development is proposed near these installations, the council will seek the advice of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) on the potential risk to health and safety of people occupying the proposed development. It will be necessary to keep sensitive development, such as housing, schools or hospitals, at a safe distance from Notifiable Installations.

5.8 Surface Water Run off and Drainage

- 5.8.1 Reducing or slowing the amount of rainfall (run off) entering the drainage network is important to help reduce flood risk both in Barnet and further downstream. The borough has 14kms of streams and brooks. The North London Strategic Flood Risk Assessment identified fluvial flooding from Dollis Brook, Silk Stream, Pymmes Brook and their associated tributaries as the primary source of flood risk in the borough. Surface water flooding in Barnet presents a low to moderate risk, and sewer flooding as low risk. Groundwater flooding was also found to be a relatively low risk due to the impermeable geology (primarily London Clay) and depth of the groundwater table.
- 5.8.2 In line with national policy a sequential risk-based approach to determining the suitability of land for development in flood risk areas will be applied. Flood risk assessments will be expected on all applicable sites to inform the sequential approach. Sustainable Urban Drainage techniques such as porous paving should be used where possible to reduce flood risk and the Mayor's drainage hierarchy applied. The principle of the Mayor's drainage hierarchy is for a greenfield rate of run off to be maintained. A greenfield run-off rate is one that reflects the natural rate of water runoff from a site before development. Further detail is provided in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.
- 5.8.3 The Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) for Barnet, Brent and Harrow is designed to fulfil the requirements of the Flood Risk regulations 2009 and to identify areas more at risk from surface water flooding. Proposals which create impact in these areas identified at risk will need to demonstrate through hydrological investigations and modelling how they will reduce that risk. Where they require permission, front garden alterations for parking or basement developments are examples which can impact local run off. Further guidance on basement development is set out in Design Guidance Note 5 – Extensions to Houses which seeks to ensure that such development does not harm the established architectural character of buildings and surrounding areas.

5.9 Watercourse restoration

- 5.9.1 Wherever possible, rivers and watercourses should be restored to a more natural state in order to improve biodiversity in the borough and help reduce the speed of run off. London's rivers have been hugely altered from their natural state. Creating a buffer between the water course and the built edge of the development (<10m width is recommended but site constraints must be considered), and removing hard structures such as revetments and toe-boards and their replacement with softer engineering features will help reverse this trend. The River Restoration Action Plan and associated website (www.therrc.co.uk) sets out details of opportunities to restore sections of the River Brent.
- 5.9.2 At the same time introducing a buffer can provide the opportunity to improve public access to green spaces in the borough. This also contributes to the development of the boroughs green infrastructure and providing attractive links between green spaces.

Policy DM04: Environmental Considerations

- a. All major development will be required to demonstrate through an Energy Statement compliance with the Mayor's targets for reductions in carbon dioxide emissions within the framework of the Mayor's energy hierarchy.
- b. Where Decentralised Energy (DE) is feasible or planned, major development will either provide:
 - i. suitable connection
 - ii. the ability to connect in future
 - iii. a feasibility study
 - iv. a financial contribution to a proposed feasibility study.
- c.
 - i. Where there is a localised source of air pollution, buildings should be designed and sited to reduce exposure to air pollutants.
 - ii. Development proposals will ensure that development is not contributing to poor air quality and provide air quality assessments where appropriate.
- d. Proposals to locate development that is likely to generate unacceptable noise levels close to noise sensitive uses will not normally be permitted. Proposals to locate noise sensitive development in areas with existing high levels of noise will not normally be permitted. Mitigation of noise impacts through design, layout, and insulation will be expected where appropriate.
- e. Proposals on land which may be contaminated should be accompanied by an investigation to establish the level of contamination in the soil and/or groundwater/surface waters and identify appropriate mitigation. Development which could adversely affect the quality of groundwater will not be permitted.
- f. Proposals for Notifiable Installations or developments near to existing Notifiable Installations will only be permitted provided that:
 - i. There is no unacceptable risk to an individual's health and safety; and
 - ii. There will be no significant threat to environmental quality.
- g. Development should demonstrate compliance with the London Plan water hierarchy for run off especially in areas identified as prone to flooding from surface water run off. All new development in areas at risk from fluvial flooding must demonstrate application of the sequential approach set out in the NPPF (paragraphs 100 to 104) and provide information on the known flood risk potential of the application site.
- h. Development proposals will wherever possible be expected to naturalise a water course, ensure an adequate buffer zone is created and enable public accessibility. Where appropriate, contributions towards river restoration and de-culverting will be expected.

Useful References

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Air Quality Action Plan, LB Barnet ➤ Circular 01/2006 Environmental | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Manual of River Restoration Techniques, River Restoration Centre, 2002 |
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|--|--|
| <p>Protection Act 1990 - Part 2A. Contaminated Land, DEFRA, 2006</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Code for Sustainable Homes – Technical Guide, CLG, 2010➤ Design Guidance Note 5 – Extensions to Houses, 2010➤ Framework for assessing the sustainability of soil and groundwater remediation, UK Sustainable Remediation Forum (SuRF-UK), 2010➤ London Heat Map for Barnet, May 2010➤ London Plan, 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination (CLR 11), Environment Agency, 2004➤ National Planning Policy Framework➤ Souder City – The Mayor’s Noise Strategy, 2004➤ Sustainable Design and Construction SPD➤ Sustainable Design and Construction SPG, GLA, 2006➤ Thames River Basin Management Plan; Environment Agency; 2009 |
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6. Tall Buildings

- 6.1.1 Core Strategy policy CS5: Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character to create high quality places defines what a tall building is in Barnet and the strategic locations where they may be appropriate. Policy DM05: Tall Buildings sets out the criteria in addition to other DM policies for assessing proposals for tall buildings.

Table 6.1 National and London Plan tall buildings guidance

The National Planning Policy Framework states that "Planning policies and decisions should not attempt to impose architectural styles or particular tastes and they should not stifle innovation, originality or initiative through unsubstantiated requirements to conform to certain development forms or styles. It is, however, proper to seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness." (NPPF: Paragraph 60)

Policy 7.7 in the London Plan sets out the approach to tall buildings in London requiring that appropriate locations are identified in Local Plan's. The policy sets out design criteria that tall buildings should comply with.

- 6.1.2 Tall buildings can make a positive contribution to a place but they can also harm the qualities that people value. Due to their potential impact applicants with tall buildings proposals will need to provide evidence of how they have considered the criteria in the policy as well as the CABE/ English Heritage guidance on tall buildings.
- 6.1.3 The London Plan, July 2011 in paragraph 7.25 defines a tall building as one that is substantially taller than its surroundings, or significantly changes the skyline. Barnet's Core Strategy defines a tall building as being eight storeys (equivalent to 26 metres above ground level) or more and identifies locations where proposals may be appropriate.
- 6.1.4 Key issues include the impact of tall buildings on the immediate street and how the design integrates with the wider urban fabric. The council will consider whether the design has a harmonious relationship with the rest of the street, the continuity of frontages and street level entrances. Applicants should use the Characterisation Study as a starting point for a 360° appraisal of the impact of the design of tall and medium rise buildings on their surrounding area. Varying heights, proportion, silhouette and facing materials at the design stage may all help contribute to assessing how to lessen negative impacts. The level of detail the applicant needs to provide will depend on the impact. Setting as well as the height can contribute to impact.
- 6.1.5 Map 8 in the Core Strategy shows locally important views. (Local Viewing Corridors) Obstructing or harmfully impacting on these views will not be acceptable. The views will be identified on the Proposals Map. Impacting on a Local Viewing Corridor may not necessarily be an issue as some proposals can assist in land-marking an important location within the view provided they don't impede or block its main subject.
- 6.1.6 A view does not have to be one of the designated Local Viewing Corridors. A tall building can affect an existing street view or a view from an open space. Particular care should be taken with tall buildings located on the ridges and higher ground in Barnet as these can affect the skyline. In these situations more distant views should be identified and the effect of the building on them considered.
- 6.1.7 The presence of an existing tall building does not necessarily mean that its replacement or another tall building in the same area will be acceptable.

Redevelopment of existing tall buildings will need to consider the potential to improve on the impact of the existing building. The massing and configuration of buildings can have a significant localised effect on the climatic conditions, funnelling wind or creating sun-traps. Good design can be used to minimise these effects to benefit in particular users of the public realm. Consideration of the potential microclimatic effects will need to be demonstrated and further detail on this is set out in the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD.

DM05: Tall Buildings

Tall buildings outside the strategic locations identified in the Core Strategy will not be considered acceptable. Proposals for tall buildings will need to demonstrate:

- i. an active street frontage where appropriate
- ii. successful integration into the existing urban fabric
- iii. a regard to topography and no adverse impact on Local Viewing Corridors, local views and the skyline
- iv. not cause harm to heritage assets and their setting
- v. that the potential microclimatic effect does not adversely affect existing levels of comfort in the public realm

Proposals for redevelopment or refurbishment of existing tall buildings will be required to make a positive contribution to the townscape

Useful References

- Barnet Characterisation Study, 2010
- Barnet Tall Buildings Study, 2010
- Guidance on Tall Buildings - English Heritage and CABE, 2007
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework

7. Heritage and Conservation

- 7.1.1 Core Strategy policy CS5: Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's character to create high quality spaces, aims to protect and enhance Barnet's heritage and highlights that Barnet has a rich historic environment. There are sixteen Conservation Areas in the borough. Conservation Areas are designated because of their special architectural or historic interest the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve and enhance. We are appraising the qualities of our conservation areas in a rolling programme which will produce separate Character Appraisals for each conservation area.
- 7.1.2 There are nearly forty sites of archaeological importance containing prehistoric, Roman and medieval remains. There are over 2,200 Listed Buildings, two Scheduled Ancient Monuments, four registered Historic Parks and Gardens and a Registered Historic Battlefield. We also have a Local List (established 1986) which identifies buildings of local historic or architectural importance.

Table 7.1 National policy for heritage and conservation

The National Planning Policy Framework defines a heritage asset as: "A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)."

The National Planning Policy Framework states in paragraph 132 that "When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification."

"Where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to or total loss of significance of a designated heritage asset, local planning authorities should refuse consent, unless it can be demonstrated that the substantial harm or loss is necessary to achieve substantial public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss..."(NPPF: Paragraph 133)

Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use. (NPPF: Paragraph 134)

Statutory listed buildings are buildings, objects or structures protected by the legislation in the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

- 7.1.3 Policy for the historic environment in Barnet covers all assets with historic value in the borough, not just conservation areas and listed buildings. This policy should be considered when appraising any development which may impact on a heritage asset.
- 7.1.4 The NPPF (paragraph 132) sets out the principle that the significance of a heritage asset helps to determine the level of protection afforded to it. The value of heritage

assets should be recognised as they can promote a sense of place and help provide a basis for regeneration. Imaginative new uses for historic buildings should be considered.

- 7.1.5 The setting of a heritage asset, in particular a listed building, is often an essential part of the building’s character. The impact of development which affects the setting of a heritage asset will require careful scrutiny.
- 7.1.6 Responding to climate change can be challenging for heritage assets particularly listed buildings. Heritage assets should be retained in use and where appropriate modified to reduce their carbon emissions, but the importance of reducing emissions should be weighed against any harm to, as well as the significance of the heritage asset. Any proposal affecting a heritage asset or its setting should be supported by evidence which is in proportion to the significance of the asset. Where harm to a heritage asset is created the public benefit of the harm will need to be demonstrated and the greater the harm the greater the justification that will be needed for any loss.
- 7.1.7 English Heritage have produced a series of guides for heritage buildings which can be accessed from the website www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk

Table 7.2: Barnet’s heritage assets

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| Conservation areas | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Burroughs, Hendon, 1983 2. Church End, Finchley, 1979 3. Church End, Hendon, 1983 4. College Farm, Finchley, 1989 5. Cricklewood Railway Terraces, 1998 6. Finchley Garden Village, 1978 7. Golders Green Town Centre, 1998 8. Hampstead Garden Suburb, 1968 9. Hampstead Village (Heath Passage), 1994 10. Mill Hill, 1968 11. Monken Hadley, 1968 12. Moss Hall Crescent, 1974 13. Totteridge, 1968 14. Watling Estate, Burnt Oak, 1998 15. Wood Street, Barnet, 1969 16. Glenhill Close, Finchley, 2001 |
| Listed Buildings | 2,206 buildings |
| Locally listed buildings | 1600 |
| Battlefield site | Battle of Barnet 1471 |
| Historic green spaces | 4 registered historic parks and gardens; St Marylebone Cemetery, Avenue House Garden, Golders Green Crematorium and St Pancras Cemetery. |
| Scheduled ancient monuments | Brockley Hill Romano – British Pottery, Edgware Manor House Moated Site, East End Road, Finchley |
| Local Areas of Special Archaeological Significance’ | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Barnet Gate and Totteridge Fields 2. Burnt Oak 3. Child’s Hill 4. Chipping Barnet 5. Cophall 6. Cricklewood 7. East Barnet 8. East Finchley 9. Edgware 10. Edgwarebury and Scratchwood 11. Finchley 12. Friern Barnet 13. Galley Lane 14. Halliwick Manor House |

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| | 15. Hendon 16. Mill Hill 17. Monken Hadley Common 18. Totteridge and Whetstone 19. Watling Street. |
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7.2 Conservation areas

7.2.1 Conservation Areas are defined as areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Within Barnet, sixteen Conservation Areas have been designated as set out in table 7.2.

7.2.2 If a site lies within a Conservation Area or is located nearby, planning permission will not be granted where development proposals neither preserves nor enhances the character or appearance of that area. Proposals will need to consider the council's conservation area character appraisals and suite of Supplementary Planning Documents.

7.2.3 Opportunities to amend the boundaries of conservation areas can be considered as part of Barnet's rolling programme of conservation area character appraisals. Article 4 Directions will be used, where appropriate, to protect or enhance the character and appearance of a Conservation Area.

7.2.4 There is a presumption in favour of retaining all locally listed buildings as well as any building which makes a positive contribution to the character or appearance of a conservation area. The council will need to be satisfied that all efforts have been made to continue the present use or to find compatible alternative uses before considering demolition as a viable option. In line with the NPPF (paragraph 130), a deteriorated condition as a result of deliberate neglect of or damage to a heritage asset will not be a factor considered in any decision. Proposals for demolition will need to address the following:

- the condition of the existing building particularly if this makes its continued use unviable; and
- the merits of the alternative proposals for the site

Alterations or extensions to locally listed buildings should respect their architectural or historic character, taking into account scale, design, materials and detailing.

7.3 Listed and Locally Listed Buildings

7.3.1 Statutory Listed Buildings are of national importance and are classified as follows:

- GRADE I – Buildings of exceptional interest;
- GRADE II* – Particularly important buildings of more than special interest;
- GRADE II – Buildings of special interest which warrant every effort to preserve them

Locally Listed Buildings are buildings of local interest which significantly contribute to the Borough's heritage and character.

7.3.2 Whatever the grading of a Listed Building, any work of demolition or alteration affecting its special architectural or historic character will require Listed Building Consent before it can be carried out. Consent is required to alter the interiors of Listed Buildings as well as the exterior. Whilst listing does not prevent changes to a building, the local planning authority is required to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting, or any feature of special architectural or historic interest.

7.3.3 There is a presumption in favour of the conservation of Listed Buildings with an emphasis on the retention of Listed Buildings in active use and generally the best use is often the original use for which it was designed. The same presumption will apply to locally listed buildings and for alterations and other external works which might harm

the architectural and historic character and setting of such buildings. Where listed buildings or other heritage assets are part of a regeneration proposal they can be used to link a scheme with an area's past and to create a sense of place. In some cases a heritage asset can be used as a catalyst for regeneration

7.4 Archaeological heritage

- 7.4.1 The borough's archaeological heritage is a valuable educational and community resource which is vulnerable to modern development and land use. Archaeological remains above and below ground level, and ancient monuments, are important surviving evidence of the borough's past, and once removed they are lost forever.
- 7.4.2 There are two Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the borough. These are set out in Table 7.2. Scheduled monument consent must be obtained from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport with applications made to English Heritage before any alterations are made to them.
- 7.4.3 With assistance from English Heritage (via the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service – GLAAS), the Museum of London and the Hendon and District Archaeological Society (HADAS), we have identified five prehistoric, four Roman and thirty medieval sites containing archaeological remains of more than local importance. These have been grouped into nineteen 'Local Areas of Special Archaeological Significance', which are identified in table 7.2. Development proposals in these areas will need to provide detail in consultation with GLAAS of how they will investigate, catalogue and where possible preserve the remains in situ or in a museum as part of any application. It may also be appropriate for HADAS to be consulted.
- 7.4.4 The council will seek to preserve nationally important archaeological remains and their settings, including Scheduled Ancient Monuments, from harmful development and will not approve development proposals which will have an adverse effect on such remains. Development which will affect remains within Areas of Special Archaeological Significance, and other archaeological remains, may also be refused.
- 7.4.5 Discovery is an important basis of archaeology. When researching the development potential of a site, developers should, in all cases, assess whether the site is known or is likely to contain archaeological remains. Where there is good reason to believe that there are remains of archaeological importance on a site, we will consider directing applicants to supply further details of proposed developments, including the results of an archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation.
- 7.4.6 Where important archaeological remains are found the council will seek to resist development which adversely affects the process of preserving the remains on site. Where this is not possible mitigation which may include excavation, analysis of remains and public dissemination of results will be expected by an archaeological organisation with approval from the GLAAS and the council before development commences. If permitted, the loss through development of any archaeological remains will need to be recorded in line with paragraph 141 in the NPPF. Planning Conditions or a Legal Agreement will be used to secure this.

Policy DM06: Barnet's Heritage and Conservation

- a. All heritage assets will be protected in line with their significance. All development will have regard to the local historic context.
- b. Development proposals must preserve or enhance the character and appearance of 16 Conservation Areas in Barnet.
- c. Proposals involving or affecting Barnet's heritage assets set out in table 5.1

should demonstrate the following:

- the significance of the heritage asset
 - the impact of the proposal on the significance of the heritage asset
 - the impact of the proposal on the setting of the heritage asset
 - how the significance and/or setting of a heritage asset can be better revealed
 - the opportunities to mitigate or adapt to climate change
 - how the benefits outweigh any harm caused to the heritage asset
- d. There will be a presumption in favour of retaining all 1,600 locally listed buildings in Barnet and any buildings which makes a positive contribution to the character or appearance of the 16 conservation areas.
- e. Archaeological remains will be protected in particular in the 19 identified Local Areas of Special Archaeological Significance and elsewhere in Barnet. Any development that may affect archaeological remains will need to demonstrate the likely impact upon the remains and the proposed mitigation to reduce that impact.

Useful References

- Barnet Characterisation Study, 2010
- Barnet Conservation Area Character Appraisals
- Design Guidance Note 1 – Advertising and Signs, 1993
- Design Guidance Note 3 – Construction of Hardstandings and Vehicular Crossovers, 2010
- Design Guidance Note 5 – Extensions to Houses, 2010
- Design Guidance Note 10 – Shopfronts, 2011
- Energy Conservation in Traditional Buildings, English Heritage, 2008
www.climatechangeandyourhome.org.uk
- Flooding and Historic Buildings, English Heritage, 2010
- Hampstead Garden Suburb Design Guidance, 2010
- National Planning Policy Framework
- PPS5: Planning for the Historic Environment – Practice Guide, 2010

8. Protecting housing in Barnet

- 8.1.1 As set out in Barnet's Housing Strategy and Core Strategy Policy CS4: Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet, our aim is to maximise housing choice alongside adequate supply.
- 8.1.2 Given the high demand for housing in the borough the loss of residential uses will not normally be acceptable. The loss from the current dwelling stock of residential units of a type which are in short supply or serving a special housing need, including Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) or other low cost or affordable housing, will normally be resisted.
- 8.1.3 There may be specific circumstances where the loss of residential uses may be acceptable. Changes of use may be permitted where a clear local need can be demonstrated to provide the following local facilities; health facilities, a children's nursery or educational use. Any proposal should be of a small scale and will be considered on its merits having regard to the impact on the amenity of residents, car parking and traffic. In line with policy CS10: Enabling Inclusive and Integrated Community Facilities and Uses the co-location of facilities will be supported in the right locations. Policy DM13: Community, Health and Education uses sets out our approach to access to community facilities.
- 8.1.4 Proposals for the demolition and net replacement of affordable housing will only be considered acceptable where it accords with the London Plan. This is normally where there are large scale identified regeneration plans involving demolition and net replacement of existing housing units. Replacement housing should meet the priorities set out in policy DM09: Specialist Housing.

Policy DM07: Protecting housing in Barnet

Loss of residential accommodation will not be permitted unless:

- a. the proposed use is for a local facility (children's nursery, educational or health use) provided that it is not detrimental to residential amenity and;
- b. where need can be demonstrated and;
- c. the demand for the proposed use cannot adequately be met elsewhere and is in line with other policies
or;
- d. the location is no longer environmentally suitable and viable for residential use
or;
- e. it involves identified regeneration areas with large scale demolition of housing and estates which provides for the net replacement of the total residential units

Useful References

- Annual Monitoring Reports
- London Plan, 2011

9. Ensuring a variety of sizes of new homes to meet housing need

- 9.1.1 As set out in Core Strategy Policy CS4: Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet, the aim is to maximise housing choice providing a range of sizes and types of accommodation that can meet aspirations and increase access to affordable and decent new homes.
- 9.1.2 Barnet's growing and increasingly diverse population has a range of needs that requires a variety of sizes of accommodation. According to Office for National Statistics projections, Barnet is now the most populous borough in London with an estimated population of 345,800 residents in 2010. It is estimated that 7.5% of the population are new to Barnet each year through birth or in-migration. Natural increase (the difference between the number of births and deaths) is the most significant contributor to Barnet's growth. Barnet's population will change our existing communities, attracting a much younger and more diverse population. Over the next ten years there will be a marked increase in the number of children aged between 5-14 years old and number of people over the age of 65.

Table 9.1 National and London Plan guidance on the size of new homes

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that "local planning authorities should plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and the needs of different groups in the community (such as, but not limited to, families with children, older people, people with disabilities, service families and people wishing to build their own homes)" (NPPF: paragraph 50)

The London Plan Policy 3.8: Housing Choice requires that: "new developments offer a range of housing choices, in terms of the mix of housing sizes and types, taking account of the housing requirements of different groups"

- 9.1.3 Three housing types cover tenure in Barnet:
- **Social rented housing** – for those households unable to afford any more than social rents;
 - **Intermediate housing** – for those households able to afford more than social rents, but unable to afford to buy owner-occupied housing or to rent privately at the market rent threshold; and
 - **Market housing** – for those households able to afford to buy or pay market rents.
- 9.1.4 The projections for Barnet's housing needs have been based on the North London Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). The SHMA estimates Barnet's housing requirements by dwelling size and tenure (rented or owner-occupied) for the next five years. It does this by estimating recent and future household formation, in-migration, out-migration and projected household dissolution. The SHMA has highlighted that Barnet needs more family sized accommodation.
- 9.1.5 Maintaining and increasing the supply of family housing is a priority in Barnet. Since 2004 we know that delivery has been dominated by smaller flatted homes. Continuous research into the type of accommodation that is being built in Barnet is recorded in the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). The AMR for 2009/10 highlights that flats have made up the majority (80%) of new housing in the past five years. Less than 10% of

new flats have 3 or more bedrooms. The dominant unit size in new build development has 2 bedrooms (50%) and under 20% of new build development has 3 bedrooms.

9.1.6 Within the context of Core Strategy Policy CS4: Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet, the policy seeks to provide choice for households by building the right homes that are suitable for the next generation. The policy is based on high and medium priorities for unit size of new social rented, intermediate and market housing as identified in the Core Strategy. This policy can be applied flexibly. It may not be appropriate to meet the dwelling size priorities in the town centres and local centres.

9.1.7 For intermediate affordable housing whilst the aspiration is for family-sized homes the practical and financial reality is that for products such as shared ownership/low cost home ownership the size of housing may be unaffordable. Therefore smaller 1 and 2 bedroom intermediate tenure homes will also be supported.

Policy DM08: Ensuring a variety of sizes of new homes to meet housing need

Development should provide where appropriate a mix of dwelling types and sizes in order to provide choice for a growing and diverse population for all households in the borough.

Our dwelling size priorities are:

- i. For social rented housing – homes with 3 bedrooms are the highest priority
- ii. For intermediate affordable housing – homes with 3/4 bedrooms are the highest priority
- iii. For market housing – homes with 4 bedrooms are the highest priority, homes with 3 bedroom are a medium priority

Useful References

- Annual Monitoring Reports
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Annual Monitoring Reports
- North London Strategic Housing Market Assessment; 2011

10. Specialist housing – Houses in Multiple Occupation, Hostels, Student Accommodation and Housing Choice for Older People

- 10.1.1 The Core Strategy in Policy CS4: Providing quality homes and housing choice in Barnet, seeks to provide supported housing to maximise the independence of vulnerable residents including young people, people with disabilities, older people, homeless people and other vulnerable adults.
- 10.1.2 Non self-contained housing (homes that share facilities) includes hostels, student accommodation, residential care homes and Houses in Multiple Occupation. Annex 4 in the London Plan sets out that 127 units of non self contained housing are expected to come forward per annum as part of Barnet’s housing target up to 2020/2021..

Table 10.1 National guidance on the specialist housing

The Town and Country Planning (Use Class Order) [as amended April 2010] classifies the range of different uses for buildings and land for planning purposes. There are 14 classes of use. Class C4 cover specialist housing:

C4 – Houses in multiple occupation (HMO) where less than 6 unrelated people live and share facilities in a self contained house

Sui generis – An HMO property where more than 6 unrelated people live and share facilities or a hostel or student housing

Circular 08/2010: Changes for planning regulations for dwelling houses and houses in multiple occupation make possible a change of use from a dwelling house (Class C3) to a house in multiple occupation (Class C4) and from a house in multiple occupation to a dwelling house under permitted development rights and planning applications are not needed.

10.2 Extending housing choice for older people

- 10.2.1 According to the Core Strategy 31% of older people in Barnet live alone and this proportion is expected to increase. Older people in Barnet are more likely to be owner occupiers without a mortgage and to under-occupy their properties. Three-quarters of older owner-occupiers live in three or four bedroom properties. National research reveals that the majority of older people would prefer to either remain living in their home, or would prefer accommodation which is part of the ordinary housing stock but is designed to meet their needs. Therefore adapting the existing housing stock to extend the housing choice for older people will be encouraged particularly where it can release family sized accommodation. This will help to deliver mixed communities in lifetime neighbourhoods as identified in the Core Strategy.
- 10.2.2 Housing proposals for the elderly include the following types of accommodation
- care homes;
 - extra care housing;
 - sheltered housing;
- 10.2.3 Proposals are expected to clearly demonstrate need and how they are contributing to the delivery of council strategies and priorities. The Core Strategy highlights an over-

supply of residential care homes in Barnet and recommends remodelling these homes for example as sheltered housing plus to address the higher support needs of tenants. Loss of extra care housing will not normally be acceptable and compliance with Policy DM13: Community, Health and Education uses will be expected to be demonstrated where community facilities may be lost.

- 10.2.4 Ensuring that the supply of specialist housing for older people meets their needs is the priority. The London Plan expects boroughs to "...undertake assessment of the short and longer term supported housing needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged groups..." The assessment's primary purpose is to ensure that sufficient supply is being provided to meet Barnet's older population's needs. The London Plan also supports "...close integration between planning and other borough strategies..." - the Core Strategy emphasises this approach. Patterns of care are changing and Barnet is prioritising increasing investment in community care to help people to remain in their own homes.
- 10.2.5 Creating an oversupply of specific types of accommodation will be resisted and any applications for accommodation which contributes to an oversupply will need to provide robust evidence in support of their proposals. The council will monitor demand and supply on an annual basis and each case will be assessed on its merits.
- 10.2.6 Any new extra care housing and care homes for older people should be within reasonable walking distance, defined as 500m, of a local parade of shops/ local centre or town centre. Providing communal space, both for visitors and staff, on site supports the provision of high quality care for older people, and facilitates visits from friends and family that they value highly. Ensuring adequate facilities for staff will help support them in providing a service.

10.3 Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)

- 10.3.1 There are two planning use classes for HMO. A Use Class C4 HMO is one that is not used by more than six people. A HMO larger than this is classed as a sui generis use. It is permitted to change a Class C4 HMO property to a Class C3 dwelling house without planning permission. Equally it is now permitted to change from a Class C3 dwelling house to Class C4 HMO property without planning permission. Converting dwellings to HMO, when classed as sui generis will require planning permission. Likewise a conversion from a HMO to flats will require planning permission.
- 10.3.2 HMO are an important source of low cost, private sector housing for students, those on low incomes and those seeking temporary accommodation. For this reason the conversion of HMO dwellings to self contained flats will be resisted (as planning permission is required) as this would be likely to reduce choice and affordability. Applicants for such conversions will be expected to demonstrate the absence of need for this type of accommodation.
- 10.3.3 Hostels can include accommodation for the homeless and short-stay accommodation for tourists. It is important to ensure that any new homeless accommodation helps to meet local need, and is not all taken by homeless people referred from other boroughs. Where temporary accommodation for the homeless is proposed, the council will seek to enter into a legal agreement with the developer to ensure that 100% of the accommodation is allocated solely to households referred by the council. Other types of short stay accommodation such as hostels for tourists will be expected to locate in the town centres.

10.4 Student Accommodation

- 10.4.1 The 2006 Housing Needs Survey estimated that Barnet's student population makes up 1.9% of households in the Borough. Over 75% of student households live in a flat/maisonette and nearly 70% of student households are in the Hendon area.
- 10.4.2 Locations outside the town centres are less appropriate for student accommodation as students generally need access to public transport. Developers intending to build new

student housing should demonstrate need which links with local educational establishments to ensure that supply meets local needs, rather than wider regional demand.

- 10.4.3 Barnet's higher and further educational establishments are located predominantly in the west of the borough. Middlesex University has aspirations to expand and consolidate its operations on the Hendon campus and provide new and improved student accommodation as part of a new 1,000 bed student village at Colindale.

Policy DM09: Specialist housing – Houses in Multiple Occupation, student accommodation and housing choice for older people

a: Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO)

The council will seek to retain existing HMO provided that they meet an identified housing need.

Proposals for new HMO will be encouraged provided that they meet an identified need, can demonstrate that they will not have a harmful impact on the character and amenities of the surrounding area, are easily accessible by public transport, cycling and walking and meet the relevant housing standards for HMO.

b: Student Accommodation

The council expects proposals for student accommodation to demonstrate that they support educational establishments within Barnet and meet an identified local need. Provision for students should be located in accessible locations.

c: Housing Choice for Older People

Housing proposals for older people should:

- i. help to meet an identified need;
- ii. demonstrate that they will not have a harmful impact on the character and amenities of the surrounding area; and
- iii. be within walking distance of local shops and easily accessible by public transport; and
- iv. provide adequate communal facilities including accommodation for essential staff on site.

Useful References

- Barnet Housing Needs Survey, 2006
- Circular 08/10 Changes to Planning Regulations for Dwellinghouses and Houses in Multiple Occupation, CLG, 2010
- Do you need Planning Permission ? Planning Portal www.planningportal.gov.uk/permission/commonprojects/changeofuse

11. Affordable housing contributions

- 11.1.1 This policy sets out how the Core Strategy Policy CS4: Providing Quality Homes and Housing Choice in Barnet will implement the borough-wide target for 40% of all new homes to be affordable. In Barnet, the aim is to maximise housing choice whilst ensuring an adequate supply providing a range of sizes and types of accommodation that can meet aspirations and increase access to affordable and decent new homes.

Table 11.1 National and London Plan guidance on affordable housing

Affordable housing is defined by the National Planning Policy Framework. "Affordable housing: social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market."

The National Planning Policy Framework states that local planning authorities should: "where they have identified that affordable housing is needed, set policies for meeting this need on site, unless off-site provision or a financial contribution of broadly equivalent value can be robustly justified (for example to improve or make more effective use of the existing housing stock) and the agreed approach contributes to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. Such policies should be sufficiently flexible to take account of changing market conditions over time." (NPPF: paragraph 50)

The Mayor's London Plan sets a London wide target for affordable housing and states that "Boroughs should set an overall target in LDFs for the amount of affordable housing provision needed over the plan period in their areas" (policy 3.11). It also indicates more tenure mix flexibility of 60:40 split between social rent and intermediate.

- 11.1.2 The threshold for requiring affordable housing is 10 or more housing units. The maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing that will be required on site will be considered on a site by site basis and subject to viability. Delivery of more than 40% affordable housing will also be sought where viable. The affordable housing threshold will also be triggered by redevelopment on sites larger than 0.4 hectares (including conversions). Affordable housing calculations should be made in terms of habitable rooms or floorspace. Calculations should be made in relation to gross development based on the total number of units in the final development.
- 11.1.3 In line with the Core Strategy the tenure mix of affordable housing which will be sought is 60% social rented and 40% intermediate. To reflect the emerging affordable rented housing market and retain flexibility for developments a proportion of the 60% social rented and 40% intermediate housing may be replaced by affordable rented housing. The proportions will be determined on a case by case basis to reflect local market rents. Further detail will be provided in the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document.
- 11.1.4 Exceptional circumstances which may justify a reduction in the affordable housing contribution or details of payments in lieu are set out in Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document. Only genuine unforeseen costs will be considered. The SPD also sets out details regarding payments in lieu and the methodology for calculating these.

Policy DM10: Affordable housing contributions

Having regard to the borough-wide target that 40% of housing provision should be affordable, the maximum reasonable amount of affordable housing will be required on site, subject to viability, from all new sites providing 10 or more units gross or covering an area of 0.4 hectares or more.

Useful References

- Affordable Housing Viability Study, 2010
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework

12. Development principles for Barnet's town centres

- 12.1.1 Policy CS6: Promoting Barnet's Town Centres in the Core Strategy sets out that the town centres are a crucial indicator of the overall economic health and suburban success of the borough. The Development Management Policies DPD will provide the detailed policy framework within which Barnet's suburban town centres can be managed to maintain their vitality and viability.
- 12.1.2 The following town centres are the focus of this policy:
- Brent Street
 - Burnt Oak
 - Cricklewood
 - Chipping Barnet
 - Colindale, the Hyde
 - Edgware
 - East Finchley
 - Finchley Church End
 - Golders Green
 - Hendon
 - Mill Hill
 - New Barnet
 - North Finchley
 - Temple Fortune
 - Whetstone
- 12.1.3 The Core Strategy identifies key town centres for placemaking and economic focus at Edgware, Finchley Church End, North Finchley and Chipping Barnet. For all town centres it promotes competitive town centre environments that provide consumer choice. This will ensure successful Barnet centres are maintained in a period of consolidated growth helping to maintain successful London suburbs.
- 12.1.4 A new town centre will be created as part of the regeneration of Brent Cross/Cricklewood. This aims to turn the existing traditional out of town shopping centre into a metropolitan town centre with a new high street which spans across the A406 North Circular Road, linking to a new railway station.

Table 12.1 National and London Plan guidance on town centres

The London Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework both require town centre boundaries and primary and secondary frontages to be defined, and a sequential approach to approving sites for main town centre uses. Existing centre sites should be used where possible, then edge of centre and out of centre locations considered in that order. The NPPF defines edge of centre as 300 metres from the primary shopping area for retail uses. For all other main town centre uses, a location up to 300 metres of the town centre boundary and up to 500 metres for an office use provided the town centre contains a public transport interchange.

The National Planning Policy Framework defines main town centre uses as “Retail development (including warehouse clubs and factory outlet centres); leisure, entertainment facilities the more intensive sport and recreation uses (including cinemas, restaurants, drive-through restaurants, bars and pubs, night-clubs, casinos, health and fitness centres, indoor bowling centres, and bingo halls); offices; and arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities).”

The NPPF (paragraph 26) requires an impact assessment for retail, leisure and office development outside a town centre.

The Use Class Order [as amended April 2010] classifies the range of different uses for buildings and land for planning purposes. There are 14 classes of use. Classes A1 – A5 cover typical high street uses:

- A1 – retail shops for selling goods to the public
- A2 – financial and other professional services
- A3 – restaurants and cafes
- A4 – pubs and bars
- A5 – take aways
- Sui Generis – for example laundrettes, taxi businesses, amusement arcades, theatres and nightclubs

12.2 Town Centre Uses

12.2.1 Appropriate town centre uses expected to locate within the town centre boundary include retail, leisure, entertainment facilities, more intensive sport and recreation uses, offices and arts, culture and tourism development. An example of a more intensive sport and recreation use could be a health and fitness centre or cinema. These are uses which will be more acceptable when located in the town centre because of the transport impact that they create from their use. They also help contribute to the continued success of the rest of the town centre.

12.2.2 The council will consider hotels and hostels as tourism related development and expect them to locate in a town centre with good public transport links with central London. There are fourteen district and one major town centre in Barnet, of which twelve have tube or rail links with central London. Due to the potential impact on

residential amenity the development of hotels or hostels just outside the town centre boundary will not be acceptable.

12.3 Out of town centre retail

- 12.3.1 All out of town retail development will be required to consider the sequential approach as set out in national policy (NPPF: paragraph 24). In Barnet extensions which exceed 200m² gross will also need to comply with the sequential approach. The council also expects this approach to be applied to the amalgamation of existing retail units in local centres or parades which result in a single unit exceeding 200m² gross. There are fourteen local centres in the borough which generally provide for day to day needs with small independent shops. The objective of this approach is to both protect these local centres and maintain the vitality and viability of existing district town centres which are more appropriate locations for larger units.
- 12.3.2 An impact assessment will be required for any significant new retail development in the borough. This requirement will apply to any development outside the 14 district town centres and one major town centre in the borough. Any large retail proposal could impact on these centres. This is in line with paragraph 26 in the NPPF. The threshold for a significant new retail development will be defined as that above 500 m² or a net addition of this amount to an existing unit.
- 12.3.3 The proposals for Brent Cross/Cricklewood will create a new town centre as part of the regeneration and the adopted Area Action Plan for Colindale identifies the development of a new community neighbourhood centre in Colindale. Neither will be required to demonstrate compliance with the tests set out in the NPPF unless they either exceed the floorspace set out in the AAP or the approved hybrid planning permission for Brent Cross/Cricklewood.

12.4 Mixed Use

- 12.4.1 In Barnet's town centres, some of the opportunities to provide a wider mix of uses come from the existing employment spaces. Through regeneration or re-use they can continue to provide employment space whilst also providing new residential and community or leisure floorspace, with retail where appropriate. Employment is critical to a town centres vitality, and the council needs to ensure that viable employment activity is retained and growth enabled.
- 12.4.2 Policy DM14: New and Existing Employment Space sets out the approach for releasing existing employment sites to other uses. The amount of employment space re-provided as part of the redevelopment will be considered on a case by case basis unless otherwise indicated in a Town Centre Framework or Site Allocations DPD. The provision of community space will be a consideration when assessing the amount of re-provision. Retail units will be required where the employment site is part of the existing retail frontage or where it could be extended to increase the retail frontage.
- 12.4.3 The council will support community uses in the town centres, as these are the most accessible locations. The definition of community uses covers a wide range of uses that can be relocated to or enhanced within the town centres provided that this does not reduce service coverage in other parts of the borough. Policy DM13: Community, Health and Education Uses provides further detail on community uses. This approach will deliver community uses and support the wider vitality and viability of the town centre provided that an active street frontage is maintained, to enable this. For example health care facilities could be provided in areas of secondary retail frontage.
- 12.4.4 Residential accommodation in town centres can help contribute to vitality and viability by increasing trade for business and enhancing levels of natural surveillance and activity throughout the day and evening. Town centre homes also offer their occupiers ready access to town centre-based services, goods and facilities and public transport, thereby reducing the need to travel by car. However care should be taken to ensure that the primary retail function is not impacted by residential uses. An example of this

is where residential access is required to the rear of shops and conflict with space for servicing the retail function should be avoided.

- 12.4.5 For town centre residential accommodation the standards applied elsewhere in the borough (for example, in relation to car parking and amenity space) may be relaxed in line with policy DM17: Travel Impact and Parking Standards and will be considered on a case by case basis. Affordable housing will be expected to be provided in line with policy DM10: Affordable Housing Contributions.

12.5 Small Shops

- 12.5.1 Ensuring that there is adequate provision for small shops is important particularly where large scale retail redevelopment occurs. Comprehensive retail redevelopment should provide a mix of retail floorspace including small units. Planning controls on maximum shop unit size and frontage will be applied in town centres to ensure diversity, viability and mix of interest and to avoid 'clone town' dominance by large retail stores that could ultimately diminish vitality of Barnet's town centres.

12.6 Town centre boundaries

- 12.6.1 Barnet has the most town centres of any borough in London. Town centre boundaries include the main town centre uses (retail, leisure, entertainment facilities, more intensive sport and recreation uses, offices and arts, culture and tourism development). Boundaries are identified for the 14 district centres and one major town centre. The boundaries clearly delineate town and hinterland residential suburb and enable a clear definition of an edge of centre site. An edge of centre site is locally defined as being within 150 metres of the town centre boundary.
- 12.6.2 Many of the town centres in Barnet have developed a linear shape along the principal radial roads that emanate from central London. The national standard for edge of centre sites of 300 metres applies to a more traditional compact town centre which is focused on the nuclei where these radial roads meet. In Barnet the immediate hinterland of all the town centres is residential and the approach is aimed at protecting these areas from inappropriate extensions of the town centre. The approach will be applied flexibly as not all town centres are of this form and the council will use the primary centre frontage as the point from which edge of centre locations are assessed.
- 12.6.3 Appropriate uses for edge of centre sites are offices and community/leisure uses. They should be suitably integrated into the existing town centre and allow easy movement in order to support existing town centre uses. Proposals for edge of centre development should consider:
- ensuring the design and siting of the development promote visual continuity with the existing street scene;
 - making provision for improved pedestrian links between the development and existing facilities; and
 - designing the site layout to give efficient access for all modes of transport.

12.7 Retail frontages

- 12.7.1 Protecting retail vitality and viability in the frontages is the priority in order for Barnet's town centres to retain their main retail function. The primary frontage in a town is the strip of most popular, central shops. The secondary frontage includes the other shops and restaurants that border these. Protecting shops in these frontages seeks to maintain the vitality and viability of the district town centres in Barnet.

- 12.7.2 The percentage of town centre frontages (primary/secondary) used for retail has been reviewed. The evidence set out in the Background Report: District Centre Frontages³ identifies that the primary frontage retail uses have broadly been maintained.
- 12.7.3 The secondary frontages present slightly more mixed results. In three town centres the secondary frontages have proportionally more Class A1 use than the primary frontage. Elsewhere the other town centres continue to mirror the established policy approach of secondary frontages being less dominated by retail uses with more restaurants/cafes and financial uses. This reflects the lower footfall found in edge of town centre locations and justifies designation as secondary frontage.
- 12.7.4 The results of the survey on frontages provide justification to maintain the percentage split for Class A1 uses as set out in policy DM11: Development principles in the town centres. Rather than identify individual percentage figures for each town centre retail uses will be removed, de-designated or re-designated from frontages where appropriate. Appendix 4 sets out the details for each town centre. The local centres policy DM12: Maintaining local centres and parades will apply in any de-designated frontages.
- 12.7.5 The council will continue to undertake periodic shopping surveys of the retail frontages in each of the defined town centres and report the results in the Annual Monitoring Report. In calculating the proportion of retail and non-retail uses, vacant properties will be included within the retail use category, irrespective of their most recent use. Change of use from Class A5 (Hot Food Takeaways), through classes A4 (Drinking Establishments), A3 (Restaurants and Cafes), A2 (Financial and Professional Services Class) to Class A1 is permitted development, and most vacant town centre properties will therefore benefit from an assumed Class A1 use.
- 12.7.6 Where the percentage of Class A1 use in a town centre frontage exceeds the thresholds set out in policy DM11 applications for a change of use to A2, A3, A4 & A5 will be permitted dependent on effective marketing. Effective marketing is where the unit is actively marketed continuously for at least 12 months at an appropriate price for both rent and sale which can be agreed in advance with the council (at pre-application if appropriate) prior to the application being made and where no interest is expressed in it for retail or similar use. Provided sufficient evidence can demonstrate this and the existing percentage of Class A1 units plus vacant units exceeds the threshold then change of use to other retail uses classes (A2, A3, A4 and A5) will be permitted.
- 12.7.7 Preventing an over concentration of similar non class A1 uses is important to maintaining the vitality and viability of a town centre. Where a proposed use would create three or more adjacent non retail uses of any class then this will be resisted. The planning system is confined to managing uses within the constraints of the use class system. It cannot control one type of Class A1 use over another. However it can limit changes from Class A1 to other non retail uses such as Class A2, A3, A4 and A5.
- 12.7.8 Any significant new retail development in a town centre should be in line with policy DM01: Protecting Barnet's Character and Amenity. The level of significance will depend on the context and the centre within which a proposal is proposed to be located.
- 12.7.9 New retail developments should be designed to ensure that they are not inward looking or self-contained, but contribute to the vitality and viability of the whole town centre, by creating or maintaining a street frontage building line and providing convenient linkages for pedestrians to access other town centre premises and spaces.

³ The Background Report: District Centre Frontages sets out the results of the latest town centre survey of the district centres in the borough. Barnet's town centre retail frontages were also surveyed in 2006 and updated in 2008

12.8 Evening Uses

- 12.8.1 The Core Strategy supports a healthy evening economy. Non-retail uses, where an active street frontage can be maintained, can help maintain the viability and vitality of some of the town centres. Uses including those in the evening economy can make a contribution providing appropriate planning conditions or licensing limits any harmful impacts on nearby residential amenity. As a minimum an active street frontage entails that the ground floor interior is visible from the street and is the principal means of access.
- 12.8.2 Evening economy uses cover a range of leisure activities such as bars, restaurants, cinemas, theatres and arts venues. They can all contribute positively to the vitality and vibrancy of town centres. They can improve levels of safety and perceptions of personal safety by providing informal surveillance for passers-by. However, if not properly managed they can result in adverse effect on local residents due to noise, odours, litter and potentially anti-social behaviour. Residential amenity will be a key consideration in any application for an evening use.
- 12.8.3 Where appropriate planning conditions or legal agreements will be used to manage hours of operation, noise and fumes from machinery, storage and disposal of refuse, the areas used by customers and any other issues that may need to control the impact of evening uses in order to protect amenity.
- 12.8.4 Licensable activities will need to comply with Barnet's Licensing Policy which sets out the council's approach to the control of these activities, for example in particular the cumulative impact of a significant number of licensed premises concentrated in one area.

Policy DM11 : Development principles in the town centres

The council will expect a suitable mix of appropriate uses as part of development within the town centres to support their continued vitality and viability.

a: Town centre uses

- i. Significant new retail and other appropriate town centre uses outside the town centres or any expansion of existing out of centre sites will be strongly resisted unless they can meet the sequential approach and tests set out in the NPPF or are identified in an adopted Area Action Plan. Edge of centre proposals will not normally be appropriate and therefore should demonstrate why they are not locating in a town centre site.
- ii. The town centre boundaries, primary and secondary retail frontages are shown in the maps in Appendix 5.

b: Primary and secondary frontages

- i. A development proposal which reduces the combined proportion of class A1 retail use at ground floor level (including vacant) in the primary frontage below 75% will not be permitted. The proposal should not create an over-concentration of similar uses which detracts from the retail function of the town centre.
- ii. A development proposal which reduces the combined proportion of class A1 retail use at ground floor level (including vacant) in the secondary frontage below 65% will not be permitted. The proposal should not create an over-concentration of similar uses which detract from the retail function of the town centre.
- iii. Change from a retail use (Class A1) will be strongly resisted unless it can be demonstrated that there is no viable demand for continued Class A1 use. When it can be demonstrated that the site has been marketed effectively for Class A1 use acceptable alternatives to Class A1 use will be Class A2, A3, A4, A5 or community uses. Conversion of any Class A use to a community use will be expected to present an active frontage at ground floor and be able to demonstrate a similar weekday footfall to a Class A1 use.
- iv. Any significant new retail development will be expected to provide a mix of unit sizes, avoid an inward looking layout, maintain the street frontage and provide suitable and convenient linkages for shoppers to access other town centre uses.
- v. Evening economy uses will be expected not to have an adverse affect on the amenity of local residents and be in keeping with the scale and character of the surrounding area.

c: Mixed use development

- i. The protection of employment floorspace should meet the requirements set out in Policy DM14: New and Existing Employment Space unless otherwise indicated in the:
 - a) Site Allocation DPD
 - b) Town Centre Frameworks

- c) Areas identified as a Locally Significant Industrial Site, Industrial Business Park or Business Locations.
- ii. Appropriate mixed use re-development will be expected to provide re-provision of employment use, residential and community use.
- iii. The council will consider the location of new and the relocation of existing community, leisure and cultural uses (including arts) to the town centres only where they maintain active frontages.

Useful References

- Barnet Licensing Policy, 2005
- Circular 03/05: Changes of Use of Buildings and Land - Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987, ODPM, 2005
- Colindale Area Action Plan, 2010
- District Centre Frontages Background Report, 2011
- London Plan, 2011
- Mil Hill East Area Action Plan, 2009
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Outline planning permission for Brent Cross Cricklewood, C17559/08
- Planning for Town Centres: Practice Guidance on Need, Impact and the Sequential Approach, CLG, 2009
- Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment, 2009
- Town Centre Floorspace Needs Assessment, Update 2010

13. Maintaining the local centres and parades

- 13.1.1 Core Strategy Policy CS6: Promoting Barnet's town centres sets out that the variety of town centres in the borough all have different roles and functions to play. The local centres and parades are particularly important for those less mobile including older people, people who are mobility impaired, parents with young children and people without access to a car.

Table 13.1 National guidance relevant to town centres

The National Planning Policy Framework states that “To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

- plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments” (NPPF: paragraph 70)

- 13.1.2 Neighbourhood and local centres are both recognised as local centres. Both occupy the same position in the London Plan town centre hierarchy. The council has identified frontages in Neighbourhood and local centres in order to protect them and manage change. The retail frontages of the following local centres are defined in appendix 4:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| • Friern Barnet | • Great North Road |
| • East Barnet Village | • Colney Hatch Lane |
| • Market Place | • Apex Corner |
| • Childs Hill | • Hale Lane |
| • West Hendon | • Deansbrook Road |
| • Golders Green Road | • New Southgate |
| • Hampden Square | • Grahame Park |
| • Holders Hill Circus | |

The Core Strategy identifies the five centres Friern Barnet, East Barnet Village, Market Place, Childs Hill and West Hendon as local centres alongside the 14 district town centres and one major town centre.

- 13.1.3 Protecting retail uses (Class A1) from change in local centres is the priority. Loss of Class A1 will generally be resisted. As well as providing for local needs shops in the local centres and parades can provide specialist uses which may not be found in the larger town centres. Sufficient evidence demonstrating lack of demand for Class A1 use will need to be demonstrated before other town centre uses including community uses. Not all uses will be appropriate as an active frontage will need to be maintained to ensure the continuity of the frontage and vibrancy in the local centre or parade. For individual shops and smaller parades, proposals will need to demonstrate that adequate provision of local shops and services is maintained.
- 13.1.4 For a change of use from Class A1 to A2, A3, A4 & A5 or a use which meets an identified local need (e.g. community facility) a unit will have to have been effectively marketed. Effective marketing is where a unit is actively marketed continuously for at least 12 months at an appropriate price for both rent and sale which can be agreed in

advance with the council (at pre-application if appropriate) prior to the application being made and have had no interest expressed in the unit for retail or similar use.

- 13.1.5 Preventing an over concentration of similar non Class A1 uses is important to maintaining the vitality and viability of the local centre or parade. Where a proposed use would create three or more adjacent non retail uses of any class system then this will be resisted.
- 13.1.6 Where local need (e.g. for a community facility) can be justified non A use class will be permitted. This can include community uses, B1 office or residential. The impact on the continuity of activity in the frontage will need to be considered. Maintaining an active frontage onto the street such as windows, entrances, receptions and waiting rooms which look out onto the street will be important. This allows overlooking of public areas adding to security and helping maintain the vitality of a centre or parade.
- 13.1.7 The requirements that are set out in Policy DM01: Protecting Barnet's Character and Amenity, Policy DM02: Development Standards, Policy DM13: Community, Health and Education uses and Policy DM14: New and Existing Employment Space will all be expected to be considered where appropriate.

Policy DM12: Maintaining local centres and parades

The council will protect all retail uses (Class A1) in the existing local centres, parades and isolated shops unless it can be demonstrated that:

- i. there will be no significant reduction of shopping facilities as a result; and
- ii. that alternative shopping facilities that are similarly accessible by walking, cycling or public transport exist to meet the needs of the area; and
- iii. the proposed use is within Class A2, A3, A4, A5 or meets an identified local need; and
- iv. there is no demand for continued Class A1 use, and that the site has been marketed effectively for such use.

A proposal that either creates an over concentration of Class A2, A3, A4 and A5 uses or has a significant adverse effect on the amenity of existing residents will be refused. Community uses will be expected to present an active frontage at ground floor and be able to demonstrate a similar weekday footfall to a Class A1 use. Proposals for residential use should not cause a break in a frontage.

Useful References

- National Planning Policy Framework
- Local Centre Frontages Background Report, 2011

14. Community and education uses

- 14.1.1 Core Strategy policy CS10: Enabling Inclusive and Integrated Community Facilities and Uses, aims to ensure that we provide the right community facilities for Barnet's communities. The council plan to protect existing community and education uses across the borough, and ensure that new facilities are in accessible locations. Community facilities provide for the health, welfare, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, leisure and cultural needs of the community.

Table 14.1 National and London Plan guidance for community and education uses

The National Planning Policy Framework, Core planning principles states that planning should “take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs.” (NPPF: paragraph 17)

The NPPF further states that “To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

- plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments” (paragraph 70)

The London Plan advises in Policy 3.16: “Protection and enhancement of social infrastructure” that DPDs should assess the need for social infrastructure and community facilities in their area, and ensure that they are met wherever possible. New facilities should be provided within easy reach of walking and public transport of their target population. Net loss must be resisted and increased provision sought.

- 14.1.2 Community and education uses include health centres, dentists, schools & further education, space for the arts, museums, libraries, community halls and other public meeting venues, theatres, cinemas, indoor and outdoor sports facilities, places of worship and some policing facilities.
- 14.1.3 The council recognise that there is a need for a range of community and religious facilities in Barnet to support the requirements of different ethnic, religious, social and interest groups in the borough. Barnet's projected population for the next ten years will increase and change our existing communities, attracting a much younger and more diverse population. There will be a marked increase in the number of children aged between 5-14 years old and number of people over the age of 65. It is therefore important that the Policy DM13: Community and education uses can respond flexibly to these changes.
- 14.1.4 Protecting all community and education uses without exception could reduce the possibilities of developers or community use promoters coming forward with proposals to mix and/or intensify community uses or relocate them to more accessible locations.
- 14.1.5 Community and education uses should be easily accessible to users. We will encourage new uses to locate in town centres and local centres as these locations are well served by public transport. Where local facilities are being provided which serve a local catchment, proximity to the bus network will be considered over and above the tube and train network.

- 14.1.6 Special care will be needed in locating facilities which generate a large demand for travel at particular times such as schools, religious buildings, cinemas and sports facilities. Ensuring there is no significant impact on the free flow of traffic is important and assessing transport impact in line with Policy DM17: Travel Impact and Parking Standards will be expected.
- 14.1.7 Community and educational uses may be appropriate in residential areas. Where they do not have a demonstrably harmful impact on the amenities of nearby residential properties and other uses in terms of noise and traffic generation, or on the character of the surrounding area. In town centre retail frontages and local centres community uses (other than educational uses) should comply with policies DM11: Development Principles for Barnet's Town Centres and DM12: Maintaining our Local Centres and Parades.
- 14.1.8 The following factors should be evidenced when considering the loss of any community or educational use:
- Does the facility meet the needs of a specific section of the community e.g. older people or religious/faith community?
 - Can these needs be met by another local community facility or proposed facility (replacement)?
 - Could improving the facility strengthen the demand for its use?
 - Could it be used for another community use?
 - How accessible is the building to public transport, walking and cycling and other local services such as shops and could this access be improved?
 - Is there an overriding community need for another use?
 - Has effective marketing been carried out? Effective marketing is continuous active marketing for a period of 12 months at an appropriate level both for rent and sale which can be agreed in advance with the council (at pre-application if appropriate) with no interest expressed in its existing use or other community facility uses.
- 14.1.9 Redevelopment of a community or educational facility will be permitted where the above factors are appropriately addressed and the criteria set out in the policy are met. It needs to be clear that the existing community's needs would still be met. Introducing a wider mix of uses on a community site or intensifying a community use or function is supported in the Core Strategy, provided accessibility and the impact on residential amenity is addressed. If there are improvements to existing community or education uses they should consider how improvements to local public transport can be made to improve access.
- 14.1.10 Adapting a building or land for another community use would be preferable to its loss to another use. This could also be part of a mixed use redevelopment which re-provides adequate facilities on site. Alternatively improvements can be provided at another location and secured via a legal agreement.
- 14.1.11 Educational uses have been highlighted by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government as a priority. National policy states that "Local planning authorities should: give great weight to the need to create, expand or alter schools; and work with schools promoters to identify and resolve key planning issues before applications are submitted." (NPPF: paragraph 72)

Policy DM13: Community and education uses

a: Loss of community / educational use

Loss of community / educational use will only be acceptable in exceptional circumstances where:

- i. New community or education use of at least equivalent quality or quantity are provided on the site or at a suitable alternative location; or
- ii. There is no demand for continued community or education use, and that the site has been marketed effectively for such use.

b: New community or educational use

New community or educational uses should be located where they are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling, preferably in town centres or local centres.

New community or educational uses should ensure that there is no significant impact on the free flow of traffic and road safety. New community or educational uses will be expected to protect the amenity of residential properties.

Useful References

- Community Buildings Needs Assessment, 2011
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Planning for Schools Development, CLG, 2010

15. New and existing employment space

- 15.1.1 Policy CS8: Promoting a Strong Prosperous and Enterprising Barnet sets out that the council will support the Borough's economy by protecting viable employment premises which meet the needs of modern business and encourage improvements to the quality of existing employment spaces including mixed use floorspace in the town centres.

Table 15.1 National and London Plan guidance relevant to new and existing employment space

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that local planning authorities should use an evidence base to assess "the existing and future supply of land available for economic development and its sufficiency and suitability to meet the identified needs." (NPPF: paragraph 161) The NPPF states in paragraph 22 that "Planning policies should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for that purpose. Land allocations should be regularly reviewed." NPPF: paragraph 24 sets a sequential approach for main town centre uses including offices.

The London Plan seeks to provide in Policy 4.1: Developing London's Economy a range of workspaces and office premises of different types, sizes and costs. It promotes the renovation and renewal of existing stock in Policy 4.2: Offices and mixed use redevelopment in Policy 4.4: Managing Industrial Land and Premises. It allows boroughs to identify and manage Locally Significant Industrial Sites. It indicates the likely level of release of industrial land for other uses; Barnet is identified as suitable for limited transfer.

The Town and Country Planning (Use Class Order) [as amended April 2010] classifies the range of different uses for buildings and land for planning purposes. There are 14 classes of use. Classes B1, B2 and B8 cover typical employment uses:

- B1 – office high tech/research and light industry
- B2 – industrial
- B8 - warehousing

15.2 Existing Employment Space

- 15.2.1 In 2009 a qualitative appraisal was undertaken to assess employment estates (clusters of sites or areas) for quality and viability and identify those that can be released for alternative uses. Further detail of this assessment is contained in the Employment Land Review.
- 15.2.2 Industrial sites and business locations that have been assessed as high quality and viable are protected and identified as Locally Significant Industrial Sites, (suitable for Class B2 and B8 uses) an Industrial Business Park and various Business Locations (suitable for Class B1 uses). These sites are identified on the Proposals Map. They are also listed and mapped in Appendix 7. The following are newly protected locations; Regents Park Road employment cluster, Squires Lane, Redrose Trading Centre and Oakleigh Road South. These sites are recommended for safeguarding in

the Employment Land Review. In these locations a site may not be redeveloped for a non employment use (non B Class use) under any circumstances. This is to ensure that viable employment locations are maintained in the borough.

- 15.2.3 All proposals for redevelopment of employment uses to another employment use should consider their impact on local employment. Redevelopment should demonstrate it's contribution to local employment. The council expects proposals to provide a more intensive employment use by demonstrating the level of employment. Proposals which cannot do this will be resisted. In particular this applies to conversion of Class B1 and B2 space to B8 and applies to sites identified as Locally Significant Industrial Sites, the Industrial Business Park and various Business Locations but also locations outside these areas.
- 15.2.4 Outside Locally Significant Industrial Sites, the Industrial Business Park and the Business Locations, all employment spaces will be protected where viable to enhance Barnet's local economy and support enterprise potential. Employment spaces are defined as Class B1, B2 and B8 under the Use Classes Order. Effective marketing is where a site has been continuously actively marketed both for sale and rent for a period of 12 months at an appropriate price which can be agreed in advance with the council (at pre-application if appropriate) for re-use or redevelopment for employment use and no interest has been expressed. Once this can be satisfied then partial loss for residential and employment use may be permitted. The impact on local employment will be considered and re-provision, preferably of small business units will be favoured which can secure an equivalent amount of floorspace and level of employment. A financial contribution will be required for employment training where this cannot be delivered satisfactorily on site. Further details are set out in the SPD on Contributions to Enterprise, Employment and Training.
- 15.2.5 In addition to demonstrating a lack of viability in the short, medium and long term, proposals to redevelop employment spaces need to demonstrate why a site is no longer suitable. The following factors should be evidenced:
- Is the building purpose built for employment or has it been adapted?
 - Does the size of the building make it suitable for small or medium enterprises (SME's)?
 - Is the site or building part of a wider employment area and would the loss affect the continued operation of neighbouring uses?
 - How accessible is the site by road and public transport?
 - Is the site suitable for another employment use such as office space?
 - Is the existing building obsolete/not fit-for-purpose to meet modern day commercial requirements
- 15.2.6 Where proposals to redevelop existing employment space in town centres and edge of centre sites can demonstrate that existing uses are no longer viable and suitable then the new development will be expected to re-provide mixed use floorspace with some employment, residential and community use.
- 15.2.7 The impact on local employment in the town centre is a consideration and re-provision will be favoured which can re-provide an equivalent amount of floorspace and level of employment to ensure that viable employment activity is retained and growth enabled in the town centres.

15.3 New Employment Space

- 15.3.1 New office space should be located in the town centres before edge of centre or other sites as these are more accessible by public transport and will help contribute to the continued vitality of the rest of the town centre. Edge of centre proposals will need to demonstrate that there are no town centre sites available.

- 15.3.2 New employment uses, in particular industrial uses, must demonstrate that they are making the right provision for deliveries and servicing. Access for uses that are expected to contribute to traffic congestion such as warehouses will be required to locate close to tier one (strategic routes) and tier two (distributor routes) roads. These tiers are strategic roads which cater for through traffic across boroughs and beyond.
- 15.3.3 Brent Cross Cricklewood is expected to deliver a large amount of new office floorspace as part of the redevelopment of the regional shopping centre and surrounding land. As part of the regeneration identified in the approved hybrid planning application there will be a loss of industrial floorspace which is treated separately from policy DM14: New and Existing Employment Space.

Policy DM14: New and existing employment space

a: Existing employment space

- i. Proposals which result in a redevelopment or change of use of a Locally Significant Industrial Site, Industrial Business Park or Business Location as shown on the Proposals Map to a non B Class use will not be permitted.
- ii. Outside these locations loss of a B Class use will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated to the council's satisfaction that a site is no longer suitable and viable for its existing or alternative business use in the short, medium and long term and a suitable period of effective marketing has been undertaken. Where this can be demonstrated the priority for re-use will be a mixture of small business units with residential use.
- iii. Office space (Class B1) should be retained in town centres and edge of centre locations. Loss of office space (Class B1) will only be permitted in town centres and edge of centre locations where it can be demonstrated to the council's satisfaction that a site is no longer suitable and viable for its existing or alternative business use in the short, medium and long term and a suitable period of active marketing has been undertaken. Where this can be demonstrated the proposal will be expected to provide appropriate mixed use re-development which provides some re-provision of employment use, residential and community use.
- iv. Proposals to redevelop or reuse an existing employment space which reduces the levels of employment use and impacts negatively on the local economy will be resisted.
- v. Where appropriate, loss of employment space will be expected to provide mitigation in the form of contributions to employment training.

b: New employment space

- i. All proposals for new office space should follow a sequential approach which considers town centre sites before edge of centre sites.
- ii. New industrial/warehousing space will be expected to locate in Locally Significant Industrial sites. Warehousing uses or uses which generate high levels of movement should be located in close proximity to tier one and two roads as set out in Policy DM17 Travel Impact and Parking Standards and minimise impact on residential areas.

- iii. Proposals for new employment space will be expected to provide on site servicing for the intended use and include space for waiting for goods vehicles.

Useful References

- Employment Land Review, 2009
- London Plan, 2011
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Outer London Commission – Interim Conclusions, 2009

16. Green belt and open spaces

- 16.1.1 Core Strategy policy CS7: Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Open Spaces, aims to protect and improve the provision of open space and protect and enhance biodiversity. Open space can be either publicly accessible or private. They are valued for many reasons including leisure and sporting use, health benefits, heritage value, biodiversity and their role in controlling urban sprawl.
- 16.1.2 Policy aims to both protect and enhance access to these spaces as vital green and open features of Barnet's leafy suburbs. Providing more public access to a variety of spaces also helps to deliver the green and social infrastructure required for a growing Barnet.

Table 16.1 National and London Plan guidance for open spaces

The National Planning Policy Framework states that "The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the essential characteristics of Green Belts are their openness and their permanence." (NPPF: paragraph 79)

National policy further states that "Green Belt serves five purposes:

- to check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas;
- to prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another;
- to assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
- to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
- to assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land." (NPPF: paragraph 80)

There are a few limited types of development that are appropriate for the Green Belt including that associated with agricultural use, essential facilities for outdoor sport and recreation and limited extension, alteration or replacement of existing buildings. Inappropriate development would have to demonstrate very special circumstances.

The NPPF in paragraph 73 requires local authorities to identify specific needs and deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities. It states that open space standards should be set locally. It states at paragraph 74 that "Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss."

The London Plan aims to protect Metropolitan Open Land (Policy 7.17) at the same level as Green Belt. It requires that deficiencies in public open space are addressed (Policy 7.18).

16.2 Green Belt / Metropolitan Open Land

- 16.2.1 Over one third of Barnet's total land area is designated as either Green Belt (28%) or Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) (8%). The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open.
- 16.2.2 Appropriate development in Green Belt or MOL include limited extensions to dwellings, replacement dwellings, development for agriculture, horticulture, woodland, nature conservation, wildlife and essential facilities for outdoor sport and recreation and uses which complement and improve access to, and which preserve the openness and do not conflict with the objectives of the Green Belt or MOL. Potentially acceptable Green Belt development such as golf courses and cemeteries can have a considerable impact on the local character, appearance, accessibility and nature conservation value of the countryside. In line with Policy DM01: Protecting Barnet's Character and Amenity and Policy DM15: Green Belt and Open Spaces they should demonstrate their harmony with the surrounding countryside and impact on biodiversity.
- 16.2.3 The extension of buildings, provided they are of limited size, may be acceptable. They may also be necessary to maintain the viability of existing uses in the Green Belt/MOL. Extensions which lead to over-development or over-intensification of the use of the site will be refused.
- 16.2.4 Replacement dwellings need not be inappropriate provided the replacement dwelling is not materially larger than the dwelling it replaces, and the open character of the Green Belt and MOL is maintained. Equally any proposals for the change of use of buildings, or the creation of new curtilage, will be assessed against the openness of the Green Belt and MOL, and the characteristic form of the existing buildings.
- 16.2.5 Development adjacent to Green Belt/MOL should respect the character of its surroundings and the visual amenity of these areas. The council will resist proposals which would have a detrimental effect on visual amenity, or the openness, purposes and objectives of these designated areas.

16.3 Open Spaces

- 16.3.1 People need a variety of open spaces close to where they live. Open space can provide the opportunity for relaxation, play, socialising and sporting activity which contributes to healthy lifestyles.
- 16.3.2 The open spaces other than Green Belt and Metropolitan Open Land protected by this policy are defined as follows:
- public open space (as defined by the Public Open Space Hierarchy in the London Plan – Table 7.2)
 - outdoors sports (including playing fields, sports pitches and golf courses),
 - allotments and cemeteries
- Many areas of Green Belt/MOL and open space are also identified and protected as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation which are set out in table 17.2.
- 16.3.3 Development on open space will be acceptable in exceptional circumstances. It may be acceptable if it is small scale and ancillary to the use of the open space, compliments its functions and does not harm its open character. In line with Policy DM16: Biodiversity any potentially acceptable development on open space will need to evaluate the impact on biodiversity, protected species and habitat or species identified in the London Biodiversity Action Plan or other biodiversity interest.

- 16.3.4 Development on open space is also acceptable where replacement open space is provided. This will only be permitted where it results in no net loss of equivalent open space or a better quality of provision. Replacement open space should be the same or better quality than that which is proposed to be lost and be provided in the local catchment area to ensure that it does not create further deficiency in public access to open space. The Barnet 'Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Needs Assessment' can be used to assess a better quality of provision.
- 16.3.5 The Barnet 'Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Needs Assessment' provides evidence on the existing open space network and its intrinsic values. It provides a basis for improving the quality and potential uses of open spaces to cater for increasing future demand arising from growth and the changing needs of the community.
- 16.3.6 The success and value of an open space network is dependent on three principal factors: the quantity, quality and accessibility of open spaces. These three factors are used to assess the level of need in Barnet. The Assessment applies these factors to the existing open spaces in the borough to create a standard for Barnet. Where a development is in an area of deficiency for publicly accessible open space new open space should be provided in line with these standards:
- Parks (1.63 hectares per 1,000 residents)
 - Children's play (0.09 hectares per 1,000 residents)
 - Sports pitches (0.75 hectares per 1,000 residents)
 - Natural green spaces (2.05 hectares per 1,000 residents).
- 16.3.7 Map 10 in the Core Strategy highlights those parts of the borough that are deficient in public open space. In such locations the council will expect contributions from development in order to overcome that deficiency.
- 16.3.8 Policy DM02: Development Standards sets out the requirements for the provision of children's playspace. A higher standard than 0.09 hectares may be required for larger developments. This is because larger developments may need to provide facilities on site for younger children in line with the Mayor of London's SPG: Providing for Children and Young People's Play and Informal Recreation.
- 16.3.9 In line with Policy DM06: Barnet's Heritage and Conservation the historic significance of any open space should also be considered if it is affected by a development. The London Parks and Gardens Trust lists all those parks and gardens with historic value in the borough.

Policy DM15: Green Belt and Open Spaces

a: Green Belt / Metropolitan Open Land

1. Development proposals in Green Belt are required to comply with the NPPF (paragraphs 79 to 92). In line with the London Plan the same level of protection given to Green Belt land will be given to Metropolitan Open Land (MOL).
2. Except in very special circumstances, the council will refuse any development in the Green Belt or MOL which is not compatible with their purposes and objectives and does not maintain their openness.
3. The construction of new buildings within the Green Belt or Metropolitan Open Land, unless there are very special circumstances, will be inappropriate, except for the following purposes:
 - i. Agriculture, horticulture and woodland;
 - ii. Nature conservation and wildlife use; or

iii. Essential facilities for appropriate uses will only be acceptable where they do not have an adverse impact on the openness of Green Belt or MOL.

4. Extensions to buildings in Green Belt or MOL will only be acceptable where they do not result in a disproportionate addition over and above the size of the original building or an over intensification of the use of the site.
5. The replacement or re-use of buildings will not be permitted where they would have an adverse impact on the openness of the area or the purposes of including land in Green Belt or MOL.
6. Development adjacent to Green Belt/MOL should not have a detrimental impact on visual amenity and respect the character of its surroundings.

b: Open Spaces

1. Open space will be protected from development. In exceptional circumstances loss of open space will be permitted where the following can be satisfied:

- i. The development proposal is a small scale ancillary use which supports the use of the open space or
- ii. Equivalent or better quality open space provision can be made.

Any exception will need to ensure that it does not create further public open space deficiency and has no significant impact on biodiversity.

2. In areas which are identified as deficient in public open space, where the development site is appropriate or the opportunity arises the council will expect on site provision in line with the standards set out in the supporting text [para 16.3.6].

Useful References

- Barnet Play Strategy 2007-2011 (2007)
- London Parks and Gardens Trust – inventory of historic green spaces
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Open Space, Sport and Recreational Facilities Needs Assessment, 2009
- Operational Plan for Management of Barnet’s Green Spaces 2007-2011 (2007)
- Providing for Children and Young People’s Play and Informal Recreation SPG, GLA, 2008

17. Biodiversity

- 17.1.1 Core Strategy policy CS7: Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Open Spaces, aims to protect and enhance biodiversity across the borough. The network of green spaces, places and features that thread through and surround urban areas and connect town to country are known as Green Infrastructure. Barnet's Green Infrastructure includes: Green Belt and MOL, parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural green spaces, trees, hedgerows and green corridors, playing pitches and outdoor sports facilities, amenity green space, landscape, children's play facilities, allotments, community gardens and urban farms, cemeteries and churchyards, rivers, streams (including the Blue Ribbon Network) and open water areas as well as green roofs and walls.

Table 17.1 National and London Plan guidance for biodiversity

The National Planning Policy Framework sets out that "The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:

- protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils;
- recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services;
- minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures..." (NPPF: paragraph 109)

National policy further states that "When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by applying the following principles:

- if significant harm resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused..." (NPPF: paragraph 118)

In line with this the London Plan Policy 7.19E states that when the Council is considering proposals that would affect a site and/or species of importance, it should apply the following hierarchy:

- 1 avoid adverse impact to the biodiversity interest
- 2 minimize impact and seek mitigation
- 3 only in exceptional cases where the benefits of the proposal clearly outweigh the biodiversity impacts seek appropriate compensation.

- 17.1.2 Development proposals should consider their impact on areas designated for nature conservation, protected species and habitat/species identified in the London Biodiversity Action Plan. The protection of biodiversity in the wider environment is also relevant where of interest.
- 17.1.3 Many individual wildlife species receive statutory protection under a range of legislative provisions. In Barnet, the main specially-protected species that are likely to be encountered are bats, great crested newts, grass snakes, the common lizard and slow worms.
- 17.1.4 The London Biodiversity Action Plan identifies the important habitats and species and sets out targets for improvements in both quality and quantity. It also sets out priority species which are the nationally rare species of conservation concern found in London. These are categorised under birds, fungi, invertebrates, vertebrates and plants. Where appropriate the council will protect these species and the habitat which supports them.

- 17.1.5 In line with Policy DM01: Protecting Barnet’s Character and Amenity development proposals should retain existing wildlife habitat, including trees and hedges for amenity value. These features can also provide biodiversity interest and where appropriate a survey will be required to determine the significance of that interest. In line with the NPPF: paragraph 113 the level of biodiversity interest identified determines the weight given to retaining biodiversity in the wider environment.
- 17.1.6 In line with the London Plan proposals which may affect a site of importance for nature conservation (SINC) should avoid adverse impact on the nature conservation value of the site, or if this is not possible minimise such impact and seek mitigation of any residual impacts. The significance of the impacts should be set out in a report supported by survey work. In exceptional circumstances, where development is to be permitted because of reasons which are judged to outweigh significant harm to nature conservation, appropriate compensation should be made.
- 17.1.7 Nature conservation sites are identified in a hierarchy of importance and Table 17.2 identifies the sites designated in Barnet:
1. Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are of national importance;
 2. Sites of Metropolitan Importance are of London-wide significance;
 3. Borough Grade SINCs are significant in a Barnet-wide context (albeit that they are sub-divided, on the basis of their quality, into two grades);
 4. Sites of Local Importance are of particular value to nearby local residents and schools because they are designated in areas deficient in wildlife sites;

Table 17.2 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Barnet

| | |
|--|--|
| Sites of Special Scientific Significance | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brent Reservoir (or the Welsh Harp) | |
| Sites of Metropolitan Importance | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hampstead Heath • Hadley Green • Edgware Way Rough • Rowley Green Common (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mill Hill Substation Pastures • Totteridge Fields and Highwood Hill • Scratchwood (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) • Arrandene Open Space & Featherstone Hill |
| Sites of Borough Importance-Grade I | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coppett’s Wood and Scrubland (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) • Glebe Lane Pastures • The Folly Brook and Darlands Lake (<i>Nature Reserve</i>) • Glebelands (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) • Monken Hadley Common • The Upper Dollis Brook | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Hill Woods (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) • Totteridge Croft Field (or Dell’s Down Acre) • Big Wood and Little Wood (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) • Mill Hill Golf Course |
| Sites of Borough Importance- Grade II | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sulloniacs Pastures • Edgwarebury Brook • Deans Brook • Mill Hill Old Railway (<i>Nature Reserve</i>) • The Silk Stream and Burnt Oak Brook • Moat Mount (<i>Local Nature Reserve</i>) and Mote End Farm • Bruno’s Field | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashley Lane • King George’s Field • Totteridge Green • Northern Line Railway Embankment, High Barnet • Lower Dollis Brook • St Pancras and Islington Cemetery |

| | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Totteridge Common • The Mill Field • Copthall Railway Walk and Copthall Old Common • Drivers Hill • Burtonhole Lane and Pasture | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Middlesex Golf Course Ponds • New Southgate Cemetery • Pymme's Brook • Rowley Lodge Field • Arkley Lane and Pastures • Arkley South Fields • Turners Wood |
|---|---|

Sites of Local Importance

| | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clay Lane • Grahame Park • Sunny Hill Park • Barnet Countryside Centre • Bell's Hill Burial Ground • Clitterhouse Playing Fields • Avenue House Grounds • East Finchley Cemetery • The Mutton Brook • Greenhill Gardens • Friary Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakleigh Park Rail Cutting • Cherry Tree Wood • College Farm • Prince's Park • Lakeside Nature Reserve • Hendon Park & Northern Line Rail Cutting • Edgwarebury Park • Woodridge School Nature Reserve • Barfields Allotments Nature Park • Belmont Open Space, Cockfosters • Copthall South Fields |
|---|---|

17.1.8 Barnet also contains parts of the Blue Ribbon Network in the form of tributaries to the River Thames; the River Brent and Silk Stream. Policy 7.28: Restoration of the Blue Ribbon Network in the London Plan aims to restore and enhance these features.

17.1.9 Where appropriate proposals will be expected to contribute to biodiversity and the wider agenda for a 'Green Grid' (green links and chains between open spaces). The Green Infrastructure SPD will provide further detail on Barnet's strategic approach for the creation, protection and management of networks of green infrastructure.

17.1.10 Where new open spaces are provided or landscaping is included as part of development proposals Barnet will favour the provision of habitats for species identified in the London Biodiversity Action Plan.

17.1.11 Access to areas of nature conservation is important, in particular given the opportunities they provide children for education and play. The majority of the Borough is within 1km of Metropolitan or Borough Grade SINC and 500m of any nature conservation site. However the Open Spaces Assessment identified fifteen nature conservation sites that have poor accessibility in terms of walking, cycling, bus or rail. In these areas development will be expected to contribute to improving access where necessary and practical.

DM16: Biodiversity

- a. When considering development proposals the council will seek the retention and enhancement, or the creation of biodiversity.
- b. Where development will affect a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation and / or species of importance the council will expect the proposal to meet the requirements of London Plan Policy 7.19E.
- c. Development adjacent to or within areas identified as part of the Green Grid Framework will be required to make a contribution to the enhancement of the Green Grid.

Useful References

- Circular 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological
- London Biodiversity Action Plan

Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System, ODPM, 2005

- London Plan, 2011
- London Regional Landscape Framework, Natural England, 2010
- National Planning Policy Framework

18. Travel Impact and Parking Standards

- 18.1.1 Core Strategy Policy CS9: Providing Safe, Effective and Efficient Travel aims to relieve pressure on Barnet's transport network and reduce the impact of travel whilst maintaining freedom and ability to move at will and facilitating planned growth. Policy DM17: Travel Impact and Parking Standards sets out the policies on 'movement' which are intended to contribute towards a safe, effective and efficient transport system. This system is available to all in Barnet to benefit from, and help ensure that new development is encouraged in locations that are accessible by an appropriate range of travel modes.

Table 18.1 National and London Plan guidance on transport impact and parking

The National Planning Policy Framework states in paragraph 29 that "Transport policies have an important role to play in facilitating sustainable development but also in contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. Smarter use of technologies can reduce the need to travel. The transport system needs to be balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes, giving people a real choice about how they travel. However, the Government recognises that different policies and measures will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas."

The NPPF further states in paragraph 30 that "Encouragement should be given to solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and reduce congestion. In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should therefore support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport."

Finally the NPPF states in paragraph 34 that "Plans and decisions should ensure developments that generate significant movement are located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised."

Paragraph 39 sets out the NPPF approach on parking standards stating that: "If setting local parking standards for residential and non-residential development, local planning authorities should take into account:

- the accessibility of the development;
- the type, mix and use of development;
- the availability of and opportunities for public transport;
- local car ownership levels; and
- an overall need to reduce the use of high-emission vehicles."

The London Plan in Policy 6.1: Strategic Approach emphasises integrating transport and development. These policies, together with other key DfT guidance documents, the Mayor's Transport Strategy, the report of the Outer London Commission, and the recently produced Sub Regional Transport Plan for North London have all been considered.

18.2 Road Safety

- 18.2.1 In planning new developments, the needs of vulnerable road users (pedestrians and cyclists) must be taken into account. The location of the development, access routes and the site layout need to be planned to ensure that all road users can travel to and from the site in safety. Where necessary, suitable facilities to assist vulnerable road users, such as crossings, cycleways and footpaths, should be provided, and where necessary the council will seek developer funding for their provision.

18.3 Road Hierarchy

- 18.3.1 Barnet's road hierarchy is identified on the proposals map and is made up of three tiers; tier one are strategic routes, tier two distributor roads and tier three are local distributor roads. Any uses fronting onto the higher tier routes (1 and 2) should carefully consider access arrangements as catering for through-traffic will normally have priority over adjacent land uses. Access on to any road should ensure that road function and the safety of road users is not compromised.

18.4 Development, Location and Accessibility

- 18.4.1 The overall assessment of accessibility will take into account factors such as the proposed use, the size and nature of the development's catchment area, the location and relative size of competing sites and the suitability of transport links between the development and its catchment area. The Council uses recognised tools, such as Public Transport Accessibility Levels (PTALs), to measure individual site accessibility. Measurement of walking and cycling accessibility will be assessed case-by-case, taking into account the distance people are prepared to walk for different types of journey.

18.5 Transport Assessment

- 18.5.1 The generation of additional traffic, especially at peak times, by new development should be minimised. In many cases, some additional traffic cannot be avoided, but good location, design and management can reduce its amount and effect. In planning new development, its full impact on the whole transport system will need to be considered and where necessary, mitigation measures required in order to ensure that the additional travel generated by a proposed development can be accommodated. Transport Assessments should be provided in accordance with the thresholds set out in Department for Transport "Guidance for Transport Assessment,, Appendix B – Indicative thresholds for Transport Assessments". The thresholds and the need for an assessment are based on the size or scale of the land use, which are set out in line with the Use Class Order. In accordance with the guidance a Transport Statement is for development that has relatively small transport implications whilst a Transport Assessment is for development that has significant transport implications.

18.6 Travel Planning

- 18.6.1 Travel plans can be an effective way of encouraging more efficient use of the transport system, including less car use. By drawing-up these plans, organisations such as businesses and educational establishments, can identify ways in which their employees, and in some cases customers, can be helped and encouraged to travel using methods other than the car. Travel plans need to be produced for all developments that exceed the relevant Transport for London thresholds and contain smart targets which are regularly monitored. In appropriate circumstances consideration should be given to providing funds for subsidising oyster cards or cycle purchase or membership of a car club. Travel plans should also be regularly reviewed. Arrangements for enforcement in the event that agreed objectives are not met are also required. In appropriate situations, through the use of legal agreements and

conditions, the council will require occupiers of new development to adopt and maintain Travel Plans.

18.7 Local Infrastructure Needs

- 18.7.1 The council will work closely with bus, coach, tube and train operators and other key stakeholders in seeking improvements to public transport services although locating developments in areas well served by public transport will lead to greater public transport use. Developers can assist by ensuring sites are designed to make public transport easy to use. Where appropriate, and in collaboration with public transport providers, the council will seek legal agreements to achieve improvements to public transport facilities and/or services.
- 18.7.2 A network of cycle routes is being developed in the borough, and developers may be able to encourage cycling by providing links to the network, and other complementary facilities.
- 18.7.3 The council recognise that a reduction in heavy goods and other large vehicle movements would be beneficial to road safety, air and noise quality, but the needs of business must be taken into account and so we will aim to balance the needs of commerce with that of protecting and enhancing the environment. The council will maintain and introduce controls to prevent the use of unsuitable routes by heavy goods and other large vehicle where suitable alternative routes are available. Developments that require regular deliveries of goods, materials and/or equipment should be located in close proximity to Tier 1 and 2 roads, to avoid the need for heavy goods vehicles to use lower tier roads, particularly through residential areas. Planning conditions may be applied to new developments to control heavy goods and other large vehicle movements, including controls on hours of operation. This will be through requiring developers to produce Construction Management and Delivery and Servicing Plans.
- 18.7.4 Policy CS15: Delivering the Core Strategy sets out that planning obligations and other suitable funding mechanisms will be used to secure infrastructure, facilities and services to meet the needs generated as part of the development. With regard to transport improvements contributions will be sought for transport infrastructure and service improvements to ensure that safety, efficiency and capacity on the transport network is maintained. This will also ensure that the impact of the development on the transport network is mitigated.

18.8 Parking Management

- 18.8.1 In the London Plan the Mayor expects to see an appropriate balance struck between promoting new development and preventing excessive car parking provision that can undermine the use of other modes. The London Plan recognises that London is a diverse city that requires a flexible approach to identifying the appropriate levels of car parking. Generally minimum levels of car parking are advocated and Table 6.2 in the London Plan sets out the Mayor's parking standards which must not be exceeded and which will apply to the borough.
- 18.8.2 Our approach to parking provision accepts the need for restraint, but intends to apply it with sensitivity to local circumstances. While all non-residential development should comply with the parking standards set out in the London Plan in deciding on residential parking requirements, we will continue to apply the standards set out in the adopted UDP 2006. This provides flexibility to consider the accessibility of individual locations, based on:
- The level of public transport accessibility (PTAL);
 - Parking stress including the level of on-street parking control;
 - The population density and parking ownership of surrounding areas;
 - The location (i.e. is it in a town centre);

- Ease of access by cycling and walking; and
 - Other relevant planning or highways considerations, such as to whether the proposal is a conversion of an existing use.
- 18.8.3 Appropriate parking for disabled people should always be provided for all development and provision should also be made for motorcycle parking. The parking requirements for the emergency services which have particular operational needs will need to be assessed on an individual basis. Uses which don't have parking standards set out in the London Plan will be required to be assessed by the developer as part of the TA.
- 18.8.4 Some developments may have difficulty meeting parking requirements, particularly in town centres. In these situations the council will show flexibility in the assessment of parking requirements and where necessary in Controlled Parking Zones (CPZ) the council will restrict the occupiers from obtaining car parking permits through a legal agreement. This will help reduce parking congestion in town centres for other users.
- 18.8.5 Development proposals will need to demonstrate through a parking survey that sufficient on- street capacity is available to justify limited or no on site parking. A legal agreement will be required to restrict future occupiers from obtaining on street parking permits in a CPZ where there is insufficient parking capacity on-street. Also where development proposals are on the edge of a CPZ the streets in close proximity but outside the CPZ will need to be included in the survey to ensure parking stress is not increased in the surrounding area not covered by the CPZ. The scope of the parking surveys must be agreed in advance with the council.
- 18.8.6 Parking for bicycles and electric vehicle charging points will generally be provided in accordance with the London Plan for all new development or as agreed in a Travel Plan. Major residential, high density developments will provide secure on site spaces for each unit. Mixed use town centre development will provide secure off street space where possible as part of the development and on street spaces as part of public realm improvements. Showering and changing facilities for cyclists should be provided as part of all non-residential development.
- 18.8.7 Parking standards for Brent Cross – Cricklewood will be treated differently from those set out in Policy DM17 (see saved suite of policies on Brent Cross – Cricklewood in the Core Strategy).

Policy DM17: Travel impact and parking standards**a: Road Safety**

The council will ensure that the safety of all road users is taken into account when considering development proposals, and will refuse proposals that unacceptably increase conflicting movements on the road network or increase the risk to vulnerable users.

b: Road Hierarchy

The council will seek to ensure that roads within the borough are used appropriately according to their status in the defined road hierarchy. In taking into account the function of adjacent roads the council may refuse development proposals which would result in inappropriate road use, or adversely affect the operation of roads in an area

c: Development, Location and Accessibility

The council will expect major development proposals with the potential for significant trip generation to be in locations which are, or will be made, highly accessible by a range of transport modes.

d: Transport Assessment

In considering planning applications for new development, the council will require developers to submit a full Transport Assessment (as defined by Department for Transport threshold) where the proposed development is anticipated to have significant transport implications in order to ensure that these impacts are considered. This assessment should include an analysis of accessibility by all modes of transport.

e: Travel Planning

For significant trip generating developments, (defined by Transport for London thresholds), the council will require the occupier to develop, implement and maintain a satisfactory Travel Plan (or plans) to minimise increases in road traffic and meet mode split targets. In order to ensure that they are delivering this the travel plan will need to contain measurable outputs so that they can be monitored.

f: Local Infrastructure Needs

- i. Developments should be located and designed to make the use of public transport more attractive for all users by providing improved access to existing facilities, and if necessary the development of new routes and services, including improved and fully accessible interchange facilities.
- ii. The council will expect development to provide safe and suitable access arrangements for all road users to new developments. Where improvements or changes to the road network are necessary by virtue of an approved development, the council will secure a Legal Agreement from the developer.
- iii. The council will require appropriate measures to control vehicle movements, servicing and delivery arrangements. Where appropriate the council will require Construction Management and/or Delivery and Servicing Plans.
- iv. Where appropriate, development will be required to improve cycle and

pedestrian facilities in the local catchment area by providing facilities on site and/or funding improvements off site

g: Parking management

1. The council will expect development to provide parking in accordance with the London Plan standards, except in the case of residential development, where the maximum standards will be:
 - i. 2 to 1.5 spaces per unit for detached and semi detached houses and flats (4 or more bedrooms)
 - ii. 1.5 to 1 spaces per unit for terraced houses and flats (2 to 3 bedrooms); and
 - iii. 1 to less than 1 space per unit for development consisting mainly of flats (1 bedroom)

2. Residential development may be acceptable:
 - i. with limited or no parking outside a Controlled Parking Zone (CPZ) but only where it can be demonstrated through a survey that there is sufficient on street parking capacity.
 - ii. with limited or no parking within a CPZ, where it can be demonstrated that there is insufficient capacity on street the applicant will be required to enter into a legal agreement to restrict future occupiers from obtaining on street parking permits. For proposals in close proximity to the edge of a CPZ a survey will also be required to demonstrate that there is sufficient on street parking capacity on streets outside the CPZ.

Useful References

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Guidance on Transport Assessment, Department of Transport, 2007 ➤ Infrastructure Delivery Plan ➤ London Plan, 2011 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Mayor’s Transport Strategy, 2010 ➤ National Planning Policy Framework ➤ Travel Planning for New Development in London incorporating Deliveries and Servicing, TfL, 2011 |
|--|---|

19. Telecommunications

- 19.1.1 As set out in Core Strategy policy CS5: Protecting and Enhancing Barnet's Character to Create High Quality Places, development in Barnet should respect the local context and distinctive local character, creating places and buildings of high quality design.

Table 19.1 National telecommunication guidance

The National Planning Policy Framework states that "In preparing Local Plans, local planning authorities should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband. They should aim to keep the numbers of radio and telecommunications masts and the sites for such installations to a minimum consistent with the efficient operation of the network. Existing masts, buildings and other structures should be used, unless the need for a new site has been justified. Where new sites are required, equipment should be sympathetically designed and camouflaged where appropriate." (NPPF: Paragraph 43)

- 19.1.2 The council will seek to ensure that the development of modern telecommunications equipment is sympathetic to Barnet's suburban townscape and countryside. The aim is to ensure that telecommunications equipment is kept to a minimum through encouraging the sharing of existing facilities and/or proposed where this is technically possible. The visual impact of telecommunications equipment can be minimised through careful design, placement, colouring and landscaping. In addition, using available technologies to miniaturise and camouflage apparatus can also contribute to reducing any visual intrusion. This will help to protect the character of an area and the appearance of property.
- 19.1.3 The policy applies to planning applications or prior notification applications for the installation of satellite dishes, microwave antennae, radio masts, cabinet boxes and other types of telecommunications apparatus which require planning permission. When considering such applications the council will also have regard to the legal requirements placed upon telecommunications operators to provide an adequate service, and any technical and operational constraints that may be faced.

Policy DM18: Telecommunications

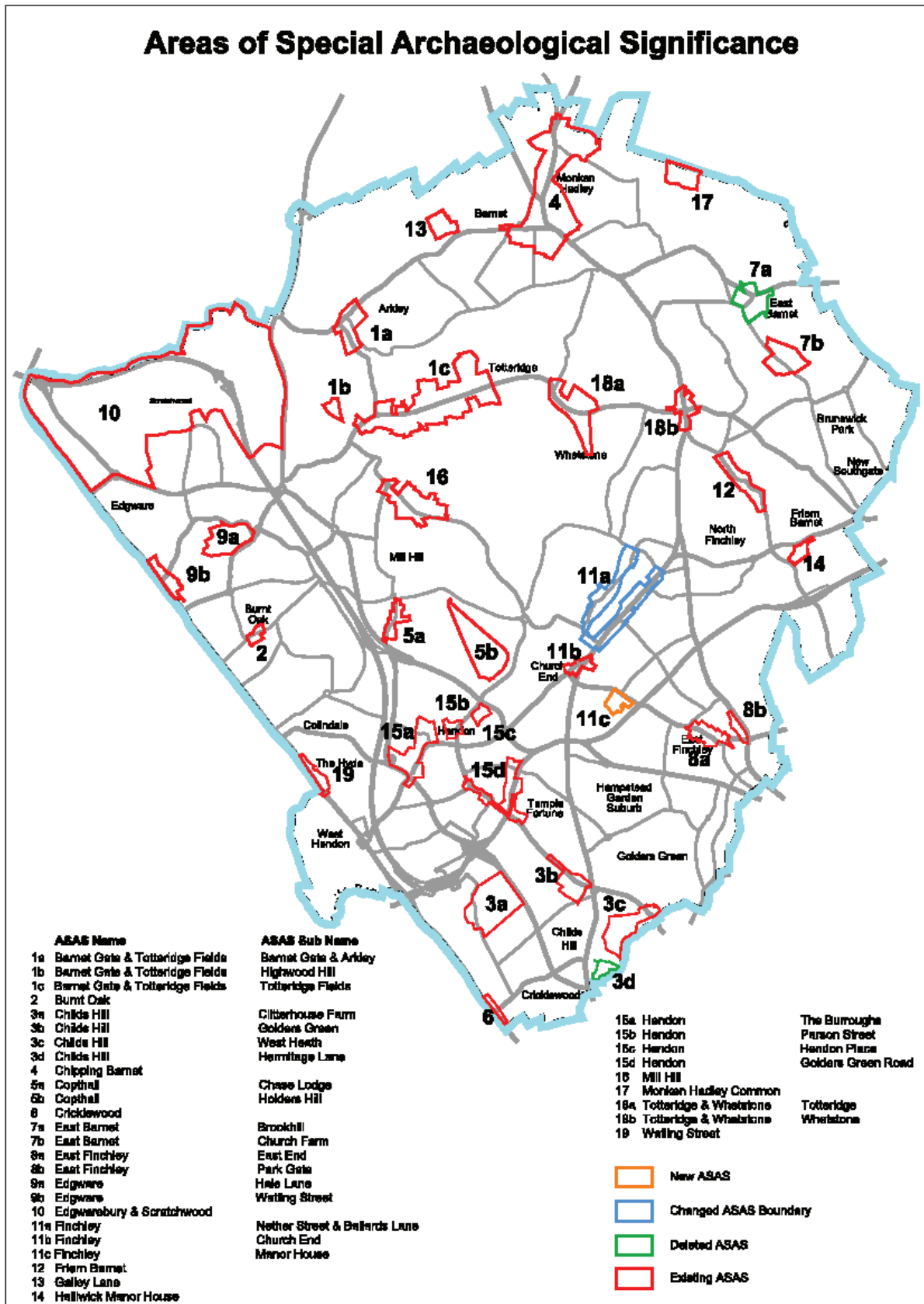
Proposals for the installation of telecommunications equipment will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

- i. There is no significant adverse effect on the external appearance of the building on which, or space in which, they are located;
- ii. The special character and appearance of all heritage assets are preserved or enhanced;
- iii. The possibility of sharing facilities, such as masts, cabinet boxes and satellite dishes, and erecting antennae on existing buildings or other structures has been fully explored and where practical becomes the preferred location;
- iv. Technologies to miniaturise and camouflage any telecommunications apparatus have been explored;
- v. They are appropriately designed, coloured and landscaped to take account of their setting; and
- vi. There is no significant adverse impact on the visual amenities of neighbouring occupiers.

Useful References

- National Planning Policy Framework

Appendix 1: Archaeological Map for the Proposals Map



Appendix 2: Development Management Monitoring Indicators

| DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT MONITORING INDICATORS Indicators and Key Targets | | |
|--|--|---|
| LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet’s AMR LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR LBB New – New indicator to be reported | | |
| DM01: Protecting Barnet’s character and amenity | Satisfaction with local area as a place to live | No decrease in satisfaction with local area as a place to live from baseline of 86% in the 2010/11 Residents Perception Study |
| DM02: Development standards | Total amount of new play space delivered (LBB New) Residential units approved below minimum space standards (LBB New) | Delivery of new play space in accordance with Infrastructure Delivery Plan To justify exceptions for new units approved below minimum space standards |
| DM03: Accessibility and inclusive design | Lifetime Homes approved (LP AMR) Wheelchair Accessible homes approved (LP AMR) | All new homes meet ‘Lifetime Homes’ standard 10% of new homes to be wheelchair accessible or easily adaptable |
| DM04: Environmental considerations for development | Units connected to a decentralised energy network (LBB New) Planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice on either flood defence or water quality grounds (LBB COI) | Delivery of Decentralised Energy Networks in Brent Cross – Cricklewood by 2021 and Colindale by 2016 No planning permissions granted contrary to EA advice |
| DM05: Tall Buildings | Number of redevelopments of existing tall buildings (LBB New) Number of refurbishments of existing tall buildings (LB New) | Number of tall buildings refused: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In strategic locations identified in CS 5 • In Other Locations |
| DM06: Barnet’s Heritage and Conservation | Number of Conservation Area Appraisals less than 5 years old (LBB New) | No Conservation Area Appraisal is more than 5 years old |
| DM07: Protecting housing in Barnet | Number of new community uses (including education) replacing residential uses (LBB New) | No net loss of housing except for where replaced by a new nursery, doctors surgery or educational use |
| DM08: Ensuring a variety of sizes of new homes to meet housing need | Refer to Policy CS4 | Refer to Policy CS4 |
| DM09: Specialist | New accommodation for older | All new housing for older people delivered |

DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT MONITORING INDICATORS
Indicators and Key Targets

LBB COI – Core output indicator reported in Barnet's AMR
 LP AMR – Reported in the London Plan AMR
 LBB New – New indicator to be reported

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| housing | people (LBB New) | within (500ms) walking distance of local shops |
| DM10: Affordable housing contributions | Refer to Policy CS4 | Refer to Policy CS4 |
| DM11: Development principles for Barnet's town centres | Town centre trends (LBB New) | No reduction in % frontage where the proportion of A1 units in town centre primary frontages is above 75% (baseline year 2010 survey) |
| DM12: Maintaining our local centres and parades | Local centre trends (LBB New) | No significant reduction in retail floorspace in local centres |
| DM13: Community and education uses | New primary schools provision | Increase in primary school places (over 2011 baseline) |
| DM14: New and existing employment space | Maintain current floorspace in the Locally Significant Industrial sites, the Industrial Business Park and the Business Locations Amount of new office space in town centres | No net loss in current floorspace in the Locally Significant Industrial sites, the Industrial Business Park and the Business Locations No new office space outside the town centres / edge of centre |
| DM15: Green Belt and open spaces | Delivery of Green Infrastructure | Financial contributions per annum to Green Infrastructure projects |
| DM16: Biodiversity | Area of land in SINC's (LBB New) | No net loss in area designated as SINC |
| DM17: Travel impact and parking standards | Number of Travel Plans provided as part of major applications (LBB New) Number of new CPZs and extensions to existing CPZs in relation to Regeneration and Development Areas (LBB New) | 100% of significant trip generating applications to provide a Travel Plan Increased coverage of CPZs in and around Regeneration and Development areas (baseline of 30 CPZs in 2011) |
| DM18: Telecommunications | Applications for telecoms approved (LBB New) | Number of Telecoms appeals dismissed |

Appendix 3: Core Strategy and Development Policies DPDs and Replacement of Saved UDP Policies (2006)⁴

| UDP saved policies (2006) | Replaced by Core Strategy Policy | Replaced by Development Management Policy |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| GSD Sustainable Development | CS1, CS13 | DM01, DM04 |
| GMixed Use Mixed Use | CS1, CS6, CS9 | DM11 |
| GWaste – Waste Disposal | CS14 | |
| GEnv1 Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| GEnv2 Design | CS1, CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| GEnv3 Safe Environment | CS5, CS9, CS12 | DM03 |
| GEnv4 Special Area | CS5, CS7 | DM06, DM15, DM16 |
| GL1 Sport and Recreation | CS7, CS10 | DM13, DM15, |
| GL2 Tourist Facilities | CS6 | DM11 |
| GRoadNet Road Network | CS9 | DM17 |
| GParking Parking | | DM17 |
| GCS1 Community Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| GEMP1 Protecting Employment Sites | CS8 | DM14 |
| GEMP2 Promoting Business Activities | CS8 | |
| GEMP3 Maximising Job Creation | CS8 | DM11, DM12, DM14 |
| GEMP4 Protecting Employment Land | CS8 | DM14 |
| GTCR1 Retailing and Town Centres | CS6 | DM11, DM12 |
| GTCR2 Range of retail services | CS6 | DM11, DM12 |
| ENV5 – Aggregates Facilities | | DM01, DM04, DM17 |
| ENV6 – Light Pollution | | DM01 |
| Policy ENV7 – Air Pollution | CS13 | DM04 |
| Policy ENV12 – Noise Generating Development | CS13 | DM04 |
| Policy ENV13 – Minimising Noise Disturbance | CS13 | DM04 |
| Policy ENV14 – Contaminated Land | | DM04 |
| Policy ENV15 – Notifiable Installations | | DM04 |
| Policy D1 – High Quality Design | CS1, CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D2 – Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| Policy D3 – Spaces | CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D4 – Over-development | CS5 | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D5 – Outlook | | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy D6 – Street Interest | CS1, CS5, CS6 | DM01, DM11 |
| Policy D9 – Designing Out Crime | CS12 | DM02 |
| Policy D10 – Improving Community Safety | CS12 | DM02 |
| Policy D11 – Landscaping | CS5, CS7 | DM01, DM02, DM15 |
| Policy D12 – Tree Preservation Orders | CS7 | DM01 |
| Policy D13 – Tree Protection and Enhancement | CS7 | DM01 |
| Policy D14 – Important Hedgerows | CS7 | DM16 |
| Policy D15 – Other Hedgerows | CS7 | DM16 |
| Policy D16 – Telecommunications | | DM18 |
| Policy D17 – High Buildings – Acceptable Locations | CS1, CS5 | DM05 |
| Policy D18 – High Buildings – Unacceptable Locations | CS1, CS5 | DM05 |

⁴ Excluding polices on Brent Cross – Cricklewood in Appendix A of the Core Strategy

Development Management Policies Adoption Version

| | | |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Policy D21 – Hoardings | | DM01 |
| Policy D22 – Design and Shopfronts | | DM01 |
| Policy D23 – Traditional Shopfronts | | DM01 |
| Policy D24 – New Shopfronts | | DM09 |
| Policy HC1 – Conservation Areas – Preserving or Enhancing | CS5 | DM06 |
| Policy HC2 – Conservation Areas – Outline Applications | | DM06 |
| Policy HC5 – Areas of Special Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| Policy HC6 – West Heath/Golders Hill Park Area | | |
| Policy HC7 – Development in West Heath/Golders Hill Park Area | | |
| Policy HC8 – The Bishop’s Avenue | | |
| Policy HC14 – Locally Listed Buildings – Demolition | | DM06 |
| Policy HC15 – Locally Listed Buildings – Safeguarding | | DM06 |
| Policy HC17 – Archaeological Remains | CS5 | DM06 |
| Policy HC22 – Battlefield Site | CS5 | DM06 |
| Policy O1 – Green Belt/Metropolitan Land | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy O2 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – New buildings and uses | | DM15 |
| Policy O3 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – Extensions of buildings | | DM15 |
| Policy O4 – Green Belt – Major developed sites | | |
| Policy O5 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – Replacement of existing dwellings | | DM15 |
| Policy O6 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land – Re-use of buildings | | DM15 |
| Policy O7 - Green Belt/Metropolitan Land -adjacent land | | DM15 |
| Policy O8 – Green Belt – Agricultural Land | CS7 | |
| Policy O12 – Green Chains | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy O13 – Green Corridors | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy O17 – Ecological Impact Statement | | DM16 |
| Policy O18 – Watling Chase Community Forest | CS7 | |
| Policy L1 – Arts, Culture and Entertainment (ACE) – Loss of Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L3 – Arts, Culture and Entertainment Facilities – Development Criteria | | DM11, DM13 |
| Policy L5 – Arts, Culture and Entertainment Facilities – Planning Obligations | CS15 | |
| Policy L6 – Designing in Art | | |
| Policy L7 – Tourist Facilities – Preferred Locations | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy L8 – Tourist Facilities – Retention | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy L10 – Hotels – Development Criteria | | DM11 |
| Policy L11 – Public Open Space | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L12 – Public Open Space – Areas of Deficiency | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L13 – New Public Routes | CS7 | |
| Policy L14 – Public Open Space – Improved Provision | CS7 | |
| Policy L15 – Metropolitan Walks | CS7 | |
| Policy L16 – Allotments | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L19 – Sports Grounds and Playing Fields – New Provision | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L20 – Floodlighting of Sports Facilities | | DM01 |
| Policy L21 – Synthetic Sports Pitches | CS7 | DM15 |
| Policy L22 – Golf Courses | | DM01, DM15 |
| Policy L23 – Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities – Protection | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L24 – Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities – New Provision | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy L25 – Indoor Sports and Recreation Facilities – Preferred Locations | CS10 | DM13, DM15 |
| Policy L26 – Indoor/Outdoor Sports and Recreation Facilities | CS7, CS10 | |
| Policy L27 – Indoor/Outdoor Sports and Recreation Facilities | CS7, CS10 | |
| Policy M1 – Transport Accessibility | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M2 – Transport Impact Assessments | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M3 – Travel Plans | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M4 – Pedestrians and Cyclists – Widening Opportunities | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M5 – Pedestrians and Cyclists – Improved Facilities | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M6 – Public Transport – Use | CS9 | |

Development Management Policies Adoption Version

| | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|
| Policy M7 – Public Transport – Improvements | CS9 | |
| Policy M8 – Road Hierarchy | | DM17 |
| Policy M9 – Road Improvement Schemes | CS9, CS15 | |
| Policy M10 – Reducing Traffic Impact | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M11 – Safety of Road Users | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M12 – Safety of Road Network | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M13 – Safe Access to New Development | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M14 – Parking Standards | | DM17 |
| Policy M15 – Rail Freight | CS9 | |
| Policy M16 – Lorries – Controls on Movements | CS9 | DM17 |
| Policy M17 – Lorries – Deliveries and Servicing | CS9 | DM11, DM17 |
| Policy H1 – Housing – Allocated Sites | CS3 | |
| Policy H2 – Housing – Other Sites | CS3 | |
| Policy H3 – Loss of Residential Uses | | DM07 |
| Policy H5 – Affordable Housing | CS4 | DM10 |
| Policy H8 – Affordable Housing – Commuted Payments | | DM10 |
| Policy H9 – Houses in Multiple Occupation | CS4 | DM09 |
| Policy H10 – Accommodation for Homeless People | CS4 | DM09 |
| Policy H11 – Accommodation for Homeless People – Planning Obligations | | DM09 |
| Policy H12 – Special Needs Housing | CS4, CS10 | DM09 |
| Policy H15 – Sites for Gypsies and Other Travelling People | CS4 | |
| Policy H16 – Residential Development – Character | CS5 | DM01 |
| Policy H17 – Residential Development – Privacy Standards | | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy H18 – Residential Development – Amenity Space Standards | | DM01, DM02 |
| Policy H20 – Residential Development – Public Recreational Space | CS7 | DM02, DM15 |
| Policy H21 – Residential Density | CS3 | |
| Policy H23 – Conversion of Residential Property | | DM01 |
| Policy H24 – Conversion of Non-residential Uses | CS8, CS6, CS10 | DM01, DM11, DM14 |
| Policy H26 – Conversion of Residential Property – Design | | DM02 |
| Policy H27 – Extensions to Residential Property | | DM01 |
| Policy CS1 – Community and Religious Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS2 – Community and Religious Facilities – Planning Obligations | CS10, CS15 | |
| Policy CS3 – Community and Religious Facilities – Protection | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS4 – Educational Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS5 – Educational Facilities – Shared Use | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS6 – New School Sites | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS7 – Surplus Educational Land and Buildings | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS8 – Educational Needs | CS10 | |
| Policy CS9 – Enlargement of School Facilities | CS10 | DM13 |
| Policy CS10 – Health Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS11 – Health Care Facilities – Multiple Use | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS12 – Social Day Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS13 – Health and Social Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | |
| Policy CS14 – Surplus Health Care Facilities | CS10, CS11 | DM13 |
| Policy CS15 – Cemeteries and Crematoria | CS10 | DM01, DM13 |
| Policy CS16 – Utility Companies and Statutory Undertakers | CS15 | |
| Policy GEMP1 – Protecting Employment Sites | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP1 – Primary Industrial Sites and Business Parks | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP2 – Employment Land – Protection | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP3 – Employment Land – Consolidation | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP4 – North London Business Park | CS3 | |
| Policy EMP5 – Warehousing | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP6 – Offices – New Development | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP7 – Offices – Re-use | CS8 | DM14 |

Development Management Policies Adoption Version

| | | |
|--|---------------|------|
| Policy EMP8 – Small Businesses | CS8 | DM14 |
| Policy EMP9 – New Residential Development | | |
| Policy EMP10 – Live Work Accommodation | | |
| Policy TCR1 – Sequential Approach | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR2 – Town Centre Development Sites – Identified | CS6 | |
| Policy TCR3 – Town Centre Development Sites – New | | |
| Policy TCR5 – Edge-of-Centre | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR7 – Out-of-Centre Locations | | DM11 |
| Policy TCR10 – Primary Retail Frontages | | DM11 |
| Policy TCR11 – Secondary Retail Frontages | | DM11 |
| Policy TCR12 – Evening Uses in Town Centres | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR13 – Residential Development in Town Centres | CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR14 – Minicab Offices | | |
| Policy TCR15 – Car Showrooms | | |
| Policy TCR16 – New Markets | | |
| Policy TCR18 – Mixed Use Development | CS1, CS6, CS9 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR17 – North Finchley Town Centre | CS3, CS6 | |
| Policy TCR19 – Neighbourhood Centres, Shopping Parades and Local Shops | CS6 | DM12 |
| Policy TCR21 – Town Centre Environmental Quality | CS5, CS6 | DM11 |
| Policy TCR22 – Design of New Retail Development | | DM11 |
| Policy IMP1 – Priorities for Planning Obligations | CS15 | |
| Policy IMP2 – Use of Planning Obligations | CS15 | |

Appendix 4: Primary and secondary shopping frontages

Brent Street

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|
| Primary Frontage | Bell Lane | 6 to 24 (even) |
| | Brent Street | 61 to 131 (odd), 96 to 150 (even) |
| | Sentinel Square | 1 to 21 (all), units 1 to 4 (all) |
| Secondary Frontage | Bell Lane | 5 to 35 (odd) |
| | Brent Street | 78 to 94, 186 to 200 (even) |
| | | 39, 43 to 49, 157 to 169b (odd) |
| | Church Road | 9 to 17 (odd) 27 to 53 (odd) 71 to 95 (odd) |
| | Sutton Parade | 1 to 13 (all) |
| | Finchley Road | 1 to 41 (odd) |
| | | Supermarket at Quadrant Service Station |
| Parson Street | 6 to 24 (even) | |
| | 1 to 5 (odd) | |

Burnt Oak

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Primary Frontage | Burnt Oak Broadway | 98 to 144 (even) |
| | Watling Avenue | 6 to 100 (even), 1 to 97 (odd) |
| Secondary Frontage | Burnt Oak Broadway | 146 to 156 (even) |
| | Silkstream Parade | 1 to 19 (all) |

Chipping Barnet

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Primary Frontages | High Street | 98 to 200 (even), |
| | | 59 to 145 (odd) |
| | The Spires | 1 to 34 (all), kiosks 1 to 3 (all) |

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Secondary Frontages | High Street /Great North Road | 1 to 17, 31, 35a, 41 to 53, 51a, 149, 151, 153, 159, 161, 165, 175, 177, 189 to 193, 203 (odd) 10 to 24, 34 to 42, 48 to 96, 202 to 206, 212 to 240 (even) |
| | Hadley Parade | 1 to 5 (all) |
| | St Albans Road | 1, 2, 7, 10, 12 |
| | Exchange Buildings | 1 to 8 (all) |
| | Union Street | 1 to 3 (odd) 2 to 10 (even) |

Colindale, The Hyde

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|---------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| Primary Frontage | Colin Parade | 1 to 9 (all), 2a, 10a, 10b |
| | Sheaveshill | 1 to 13(all), 12a |
| Secondary Frontage | Varley parade | 1 to 19 (all) |

Cricklewood

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|---------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Primary Frontage | Cricklewood Broadway | 152 to 192 (even) |
| | Cricklewood Lane | 1 to 13 (odd) , 1a, 2b, 2c, 10a, 12a, |
| | | 2 to 20 (even) |
| Secondary Frontage | Cricklewood Broadway | 114 to 140 (even) 194 |
| | Cricklewood Lane | 26 to 56 (even) |

Edgware

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Primary Frontage | Station Road | 102 to 248 (even), |
| | | 69 to 193 (odd) |
| | The Broadwalk | 1 to 34 (all) |
| Secondary Frontage | Edgware Road High Street | 60 to 88, 90 to 114, 116 to 142 (even) |
| | Boot Parade | 1 to 10 (all) |
| | Edgwarebury Lane | 1 to 23 (odd) |

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| | Promenade Mansions | 1 to 17 (all) |
| | Hale Lane | 288 to 298 (even) |
| | | 289 to 317 (odd) |
| | Manor Park Crescent | 41 to 47 (odd) |
| | The Quadrant | 10 to 13 (all) |
| | Cinema Parade | 1 to 4 (all) |
| Station Road | 1 to 65(odd) | |
| | 8 to 34, 38 to 42 (even) | |

East Finchley

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Primary Frontage | Great North Road/High Road | 54 to 134 (even), |
| | | 61, 69, 79 to 125 (odd) |
| | Viceroy Parade | 1 to 23 (all) |
| | Fortis Green | 1 to 11 (odd) |
| Secondary Frontage | High Road | 20 to 50, 136 to 194 (even) 127 to 133 (odd) |
| | East Finchley Station | Shops –all |

Finchley Church End

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Primary Frontage | Ballards Lane | 6 to 96 (even) |
| | | 1 to 87 (odd) |
| | Nether Street | 407 |
| Secondary Frontage | Ballards Lane | 89 to 191 (odd) |
| | | 98 to 170 (even) |
| | Long Lane | 2 to 16 (even) |
| | | 1 to 15 (odd) |
| Regents Park Road | 351to 381 (odd) | |

| | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------|
| | | 322 to 364 (even) |
| | Station Road | 1 to 19 (odd) |
| | | 2 to 26 (even) |

Golders Green

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|--------------------|---------------------|---|
| Primary Frontage | Golders Road | Green 10 to 90a (even), 23 to 103 (odd) |
| Secondary Frontage | Golders Road | Green 2 to 8, 92 to 154 (even) |
| | | 1 to 21, 105 to 127 (odd) |
| | Finchley Road | 612 to 642 (even) |
| | | 867 to 893, 897, 901 to 917 (odd) |
| | North End Road | 2 to 38 (even) |
| | Station Forecourt | (all) |
| Hoop Lane | 1 to 7 (odd), 2a | |

Hendon Central

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Primary Frontage | Vivian Avenue | 1 to 45 (odd), |
| | | 2 to 68 (even) |
| | Central Circus | 6 to 19 (all) |
| Secondary Frontage | Central Circus | 1 to 5 (all), 11a |
| | Hendon Way | 258 to 240 (even) |
| | | 379 to 421 (odd) |
| | Watford Way | 1 to 61 (odd) |
| | | 2 to 44 (even) |
| | Queen's Road, Queen's Parade | 2 to 12 (even) |
| 3 to 7 (odd) | | |

Mill Hill

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|-------------|------------------|
| | | |

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Primary Frontage | The Broadway | 5 to 127 (odd), 2 to 66 (even) |
| Secondary Frontage | The Broadway | 86 to 94 (even) |
| | | 129 to 145 (odd) |
| | Station Road | 7 to 12 (all) |

New Barnet

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|---------------------------|------------------|--|
| Primary Frontage | East Barnet Road | 15 to 63 (odd) |
| | | 18 to 98 (even) |
| Secondary Frontage | n/a | There are no frontages suitable to designate secondary frontage. |

North Finchley

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|---------------------------|----------------|--|
| Primary Frontage | Lodge Lane | 2 to 4 (even) |
| | High Road | 702 to 808 (even), 751 to 839 (odd) |
| Secondary Frontage | | Ballards Lane |
| | Grand Arcade | |
| | High Road | 810 to 884 (even) 841 to 877 (odd) |
| | | Nether Street |
| | Woodhouse Road | |

Temple Fortune

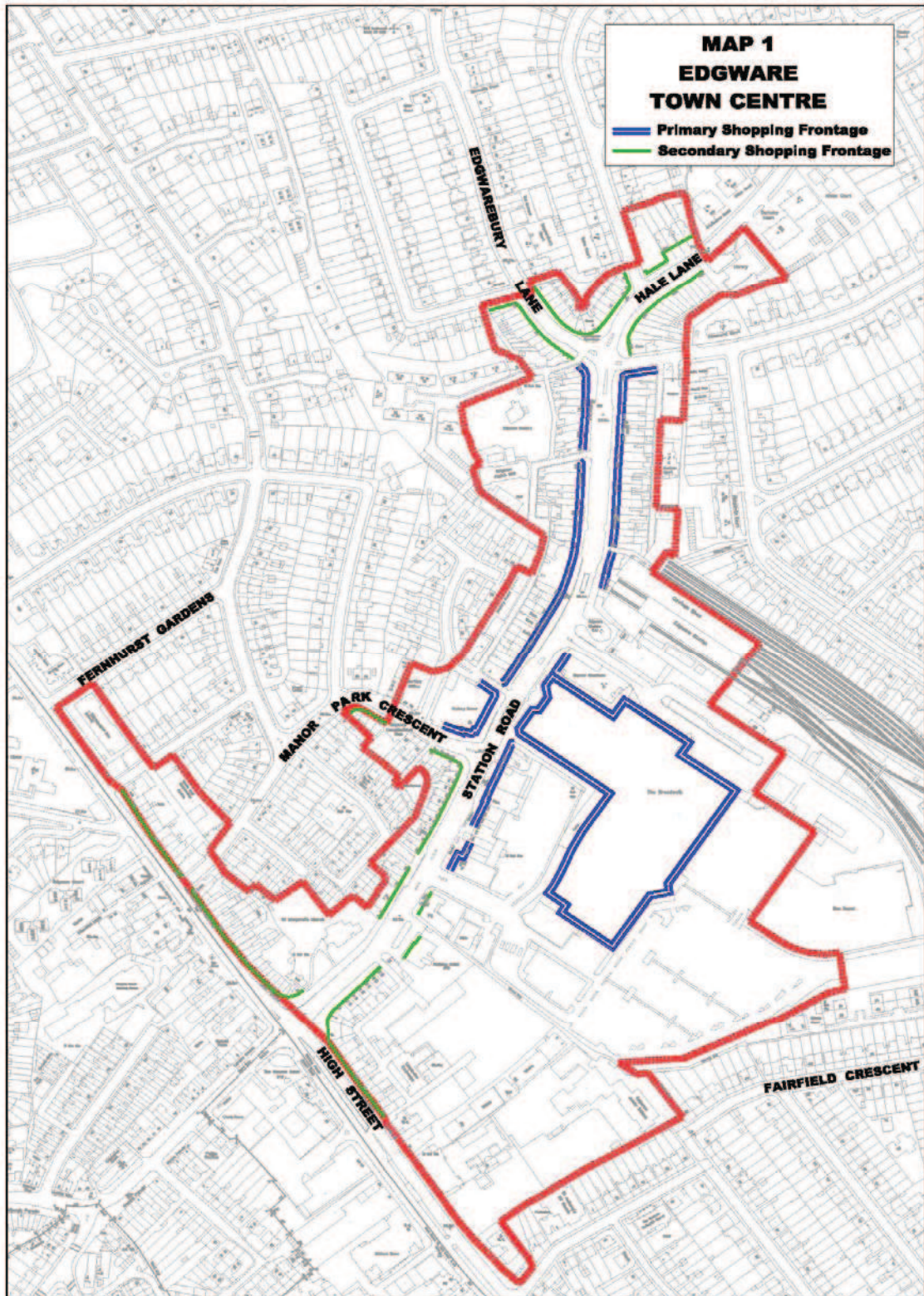
| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Primary Frontage | Halleswelle Parade, Finchley Road | 1 to 17 (all) |
| | Temple Fortune Parade | 11 to 40 (all) |
| | Belmont Parade | 1 to 8 (all) |
| | Finchley Road | 1095 to 1117, 1175 to 1201 (odd), |

| | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | 788 to 832 (even) 788a |
| Secondary Frontage | Clifton Gardens | 58 |
| | Finchley Road | 746 to 786, 856 (even) |
| | | 1013 to 1093 (odd) |
| | Ashbourne Parade, Finchley Road | 1 to 14 (all) |
| | Monksville Parade, Finchley Road | 1 to 16 (all) |
| | Bridge Lane | 1 to 3 (odd) |
| Temple Fortune Parade | 4 to 10 (all) | |

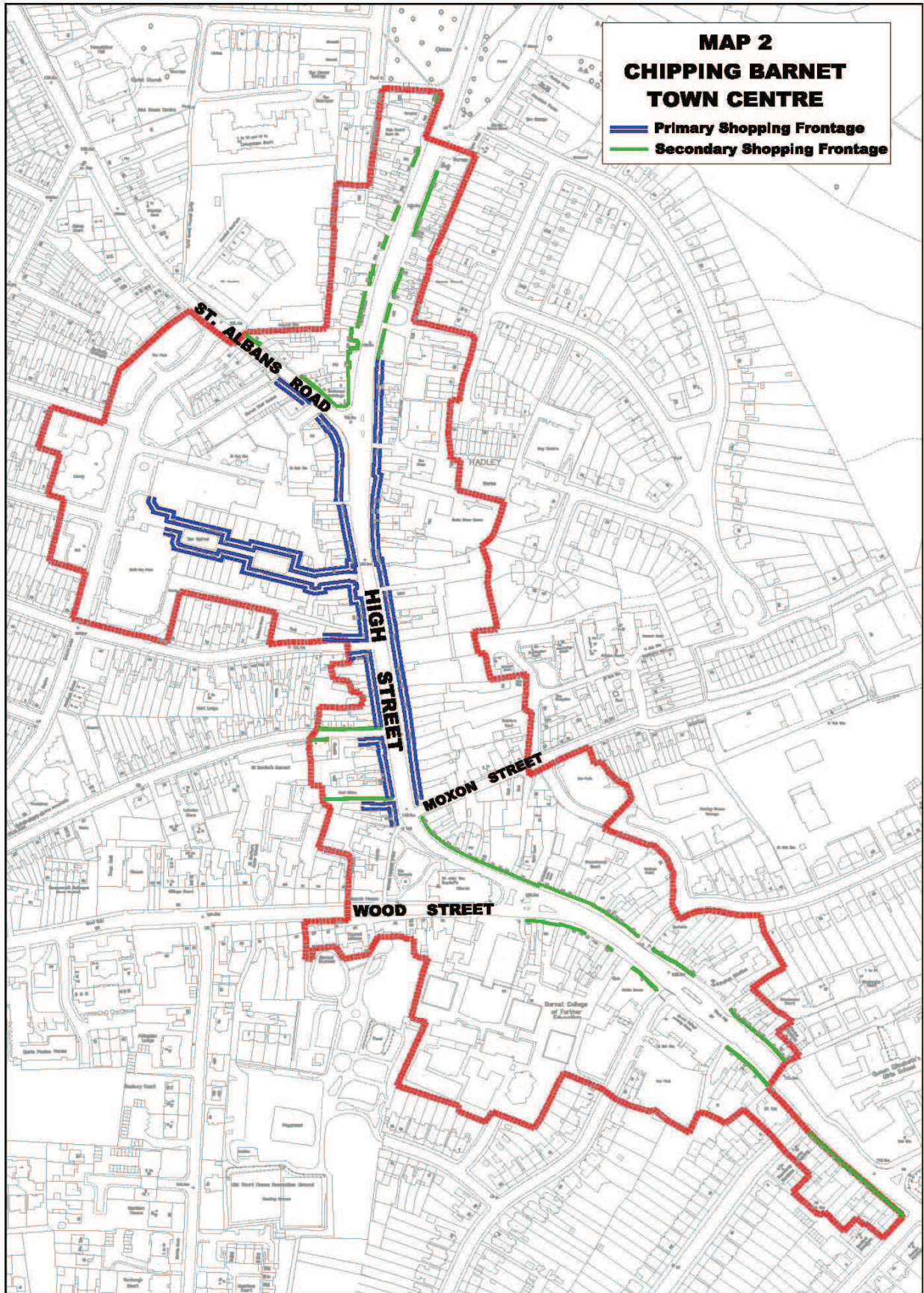
Whetstone

| Frontage | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|---------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Primary Frontage | High Road | 1261 to 1329 (odd) |
| | | 1288 to 1364 (even) |
| Secondary Frontage | High Road | 1257 to 1261 (odd) |
| | | 1331 to 1379 (odd) |
| | | 1250 to 1286 (even) 1368 to 1392 (even) |
| | Oakleigh Road North | 1 – 17 (all) |

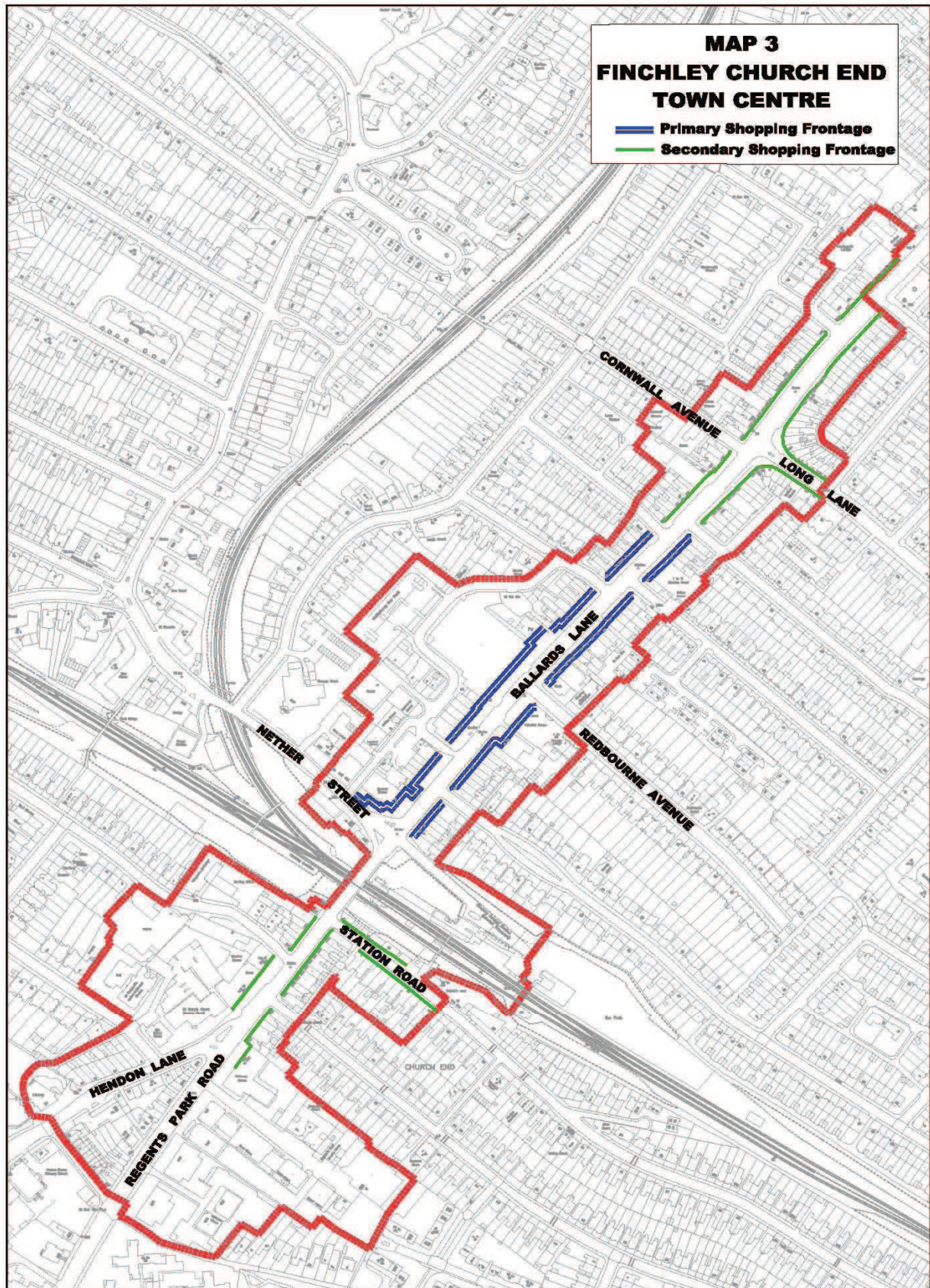
Appendix 5: Town centre maps



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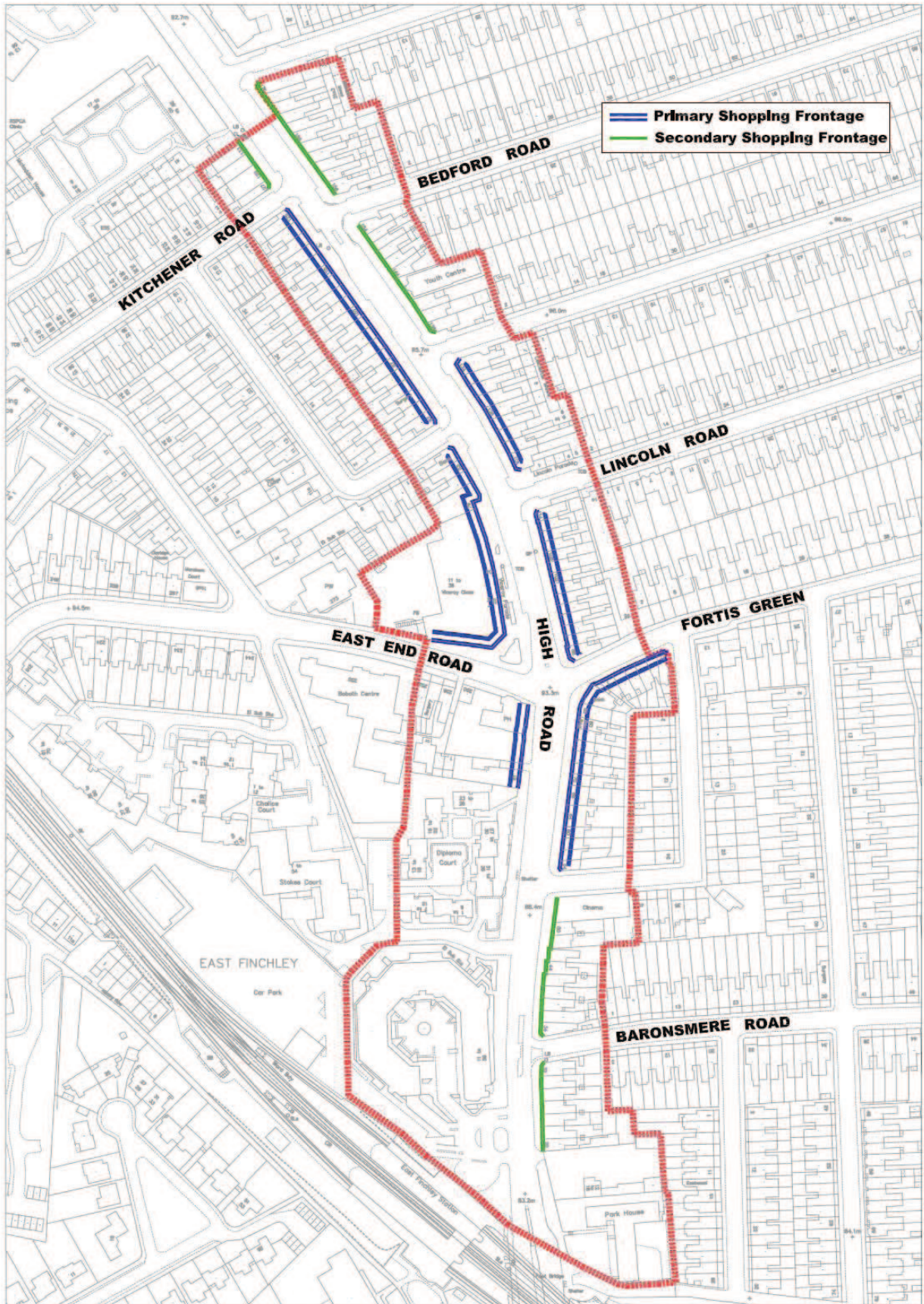


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Map No. 4 London Borough of Barnet. Proposed Alterations to Proposals Map (Adopted 2006)



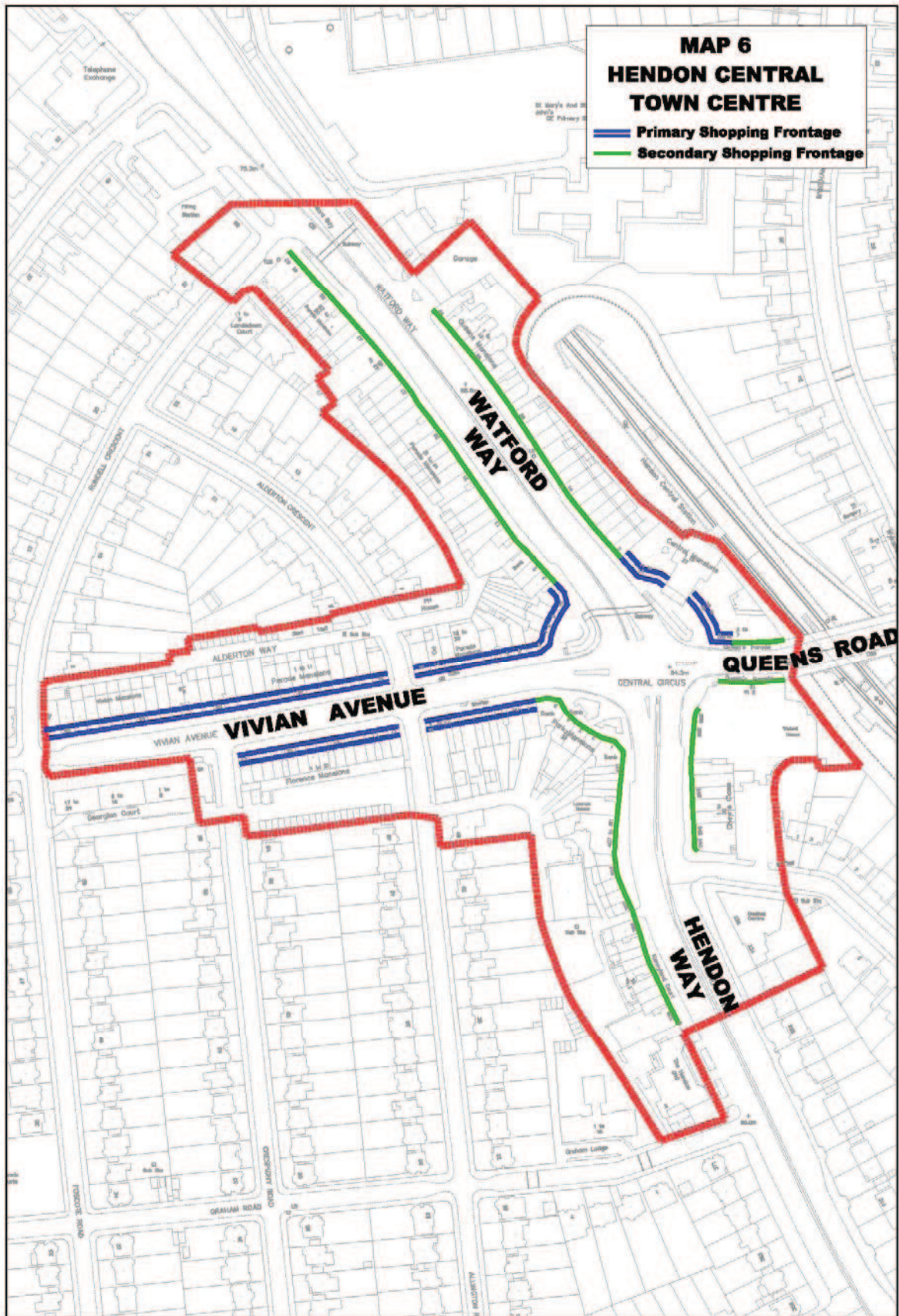
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East Finchley Town Centre Boundary

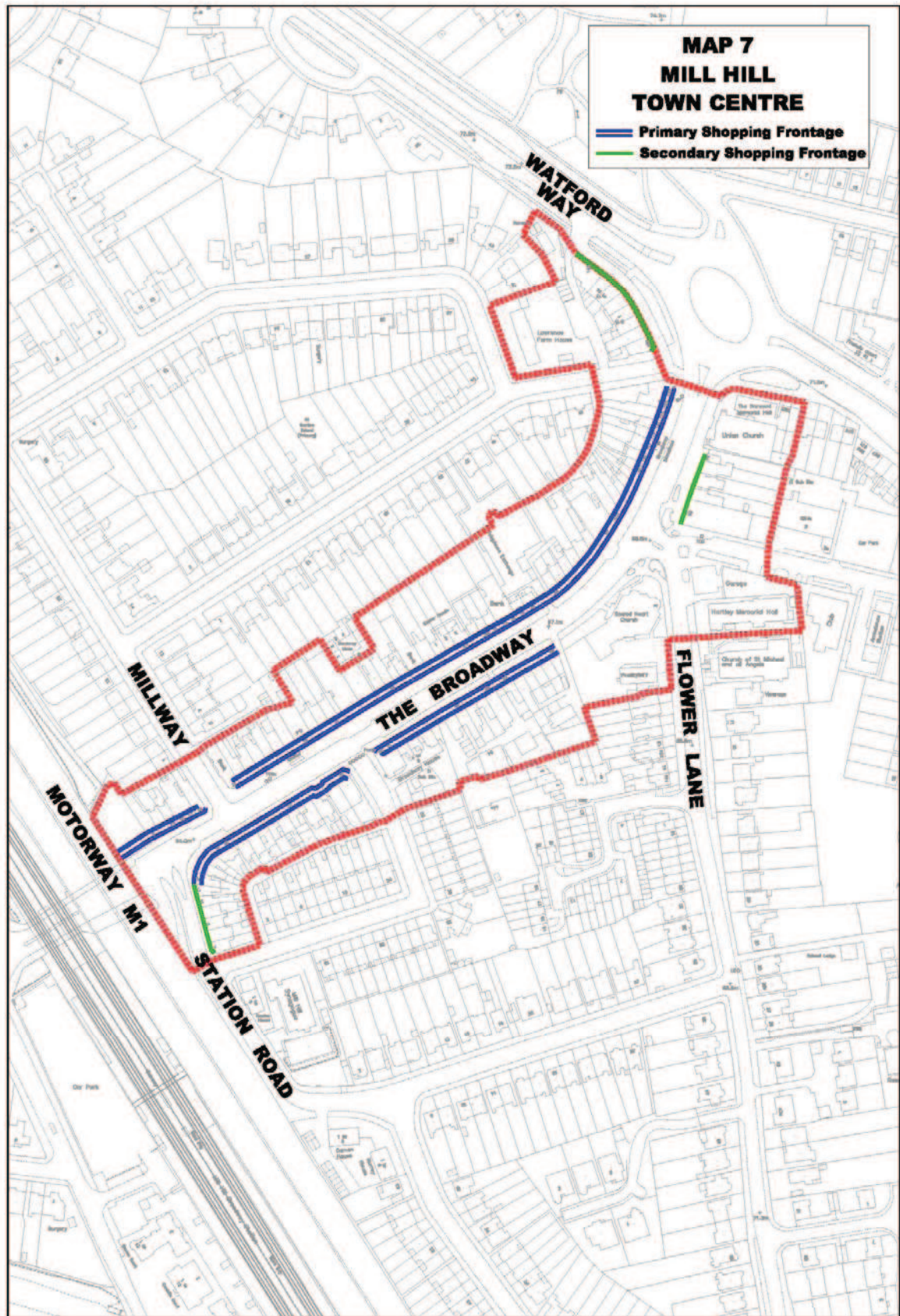
Map No.5 London Borough of Barnet. Proposed Alteratlons to Proposals Map (Adopted 2006)



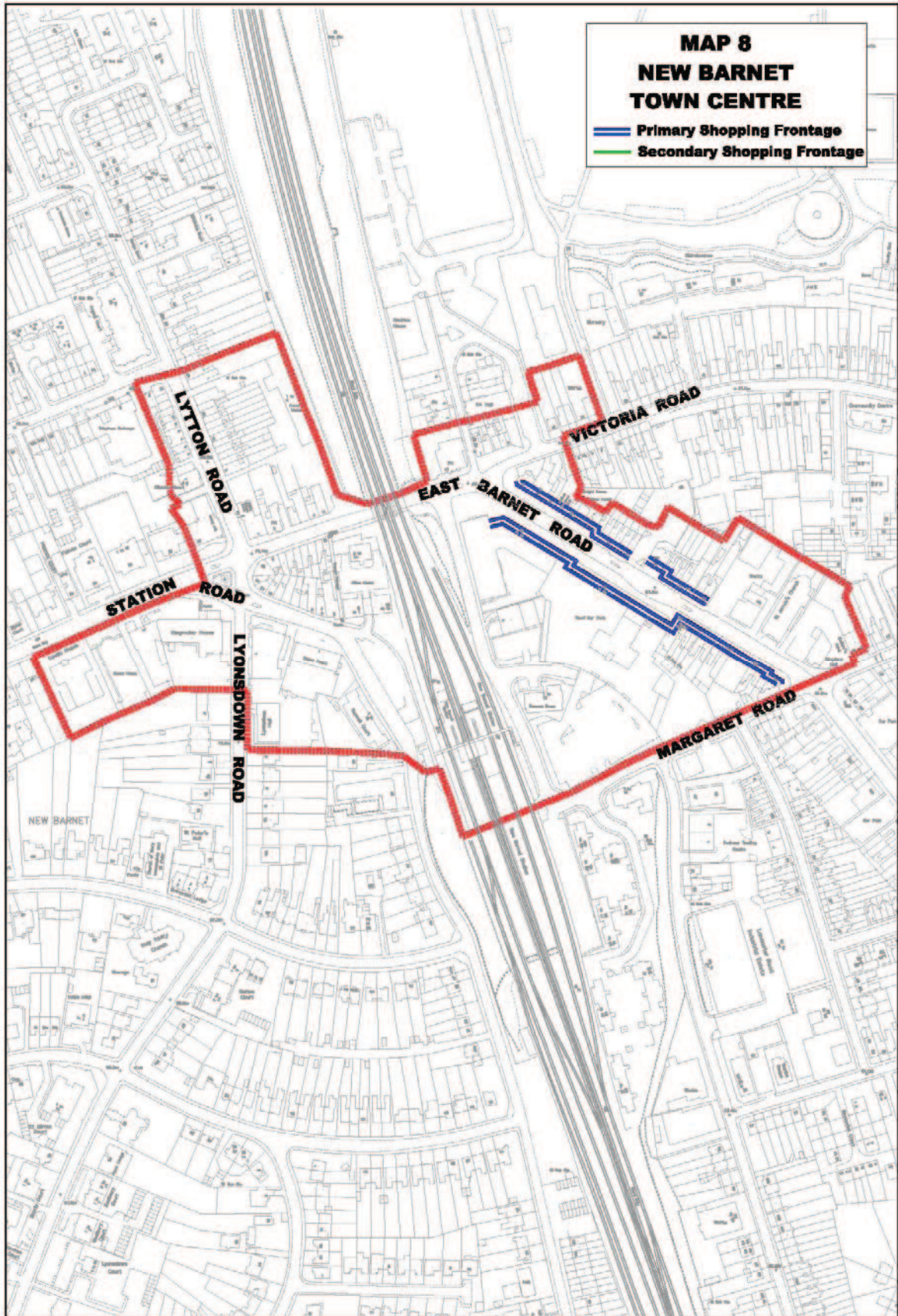
Golders Green Town Centre Boundary



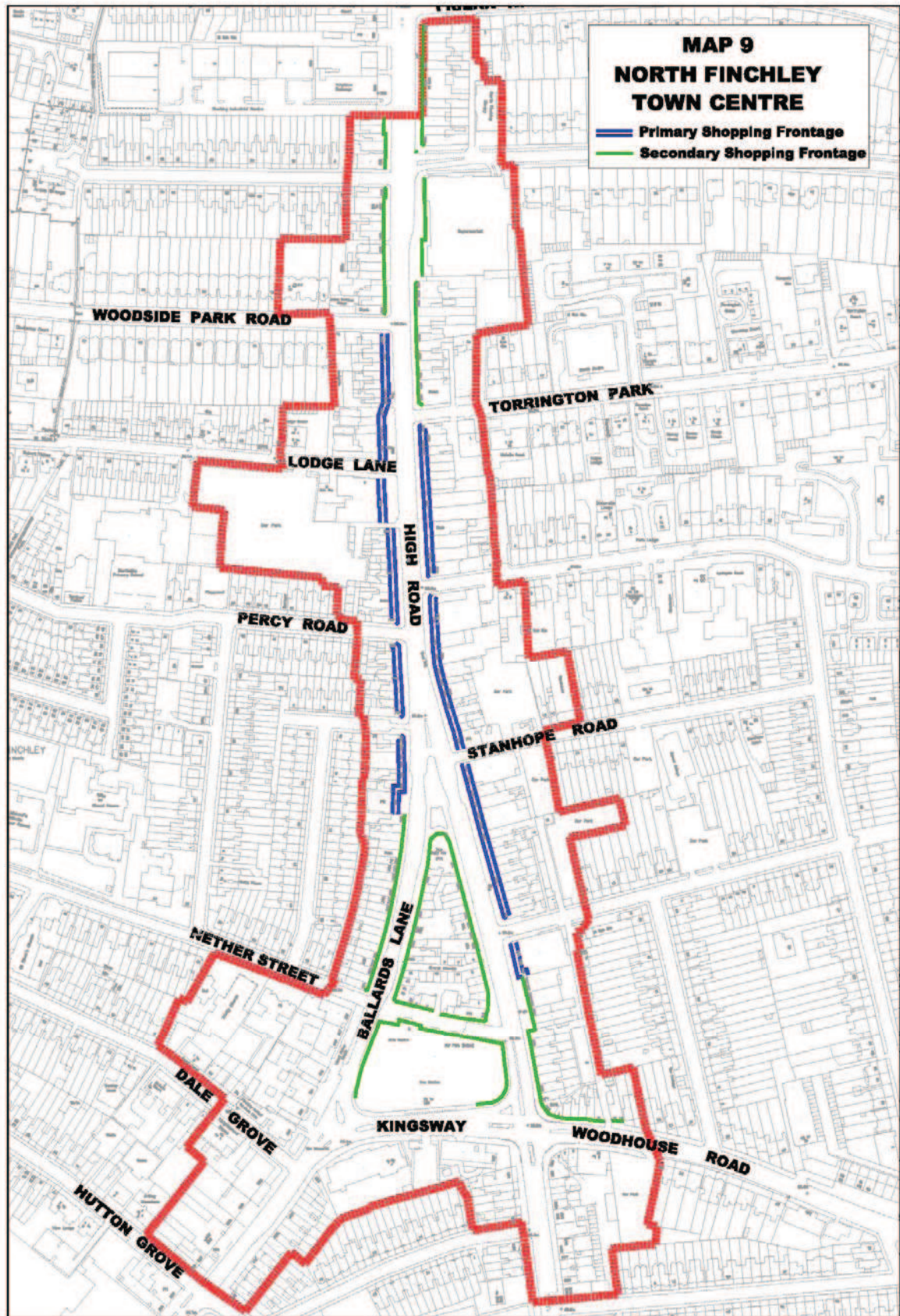
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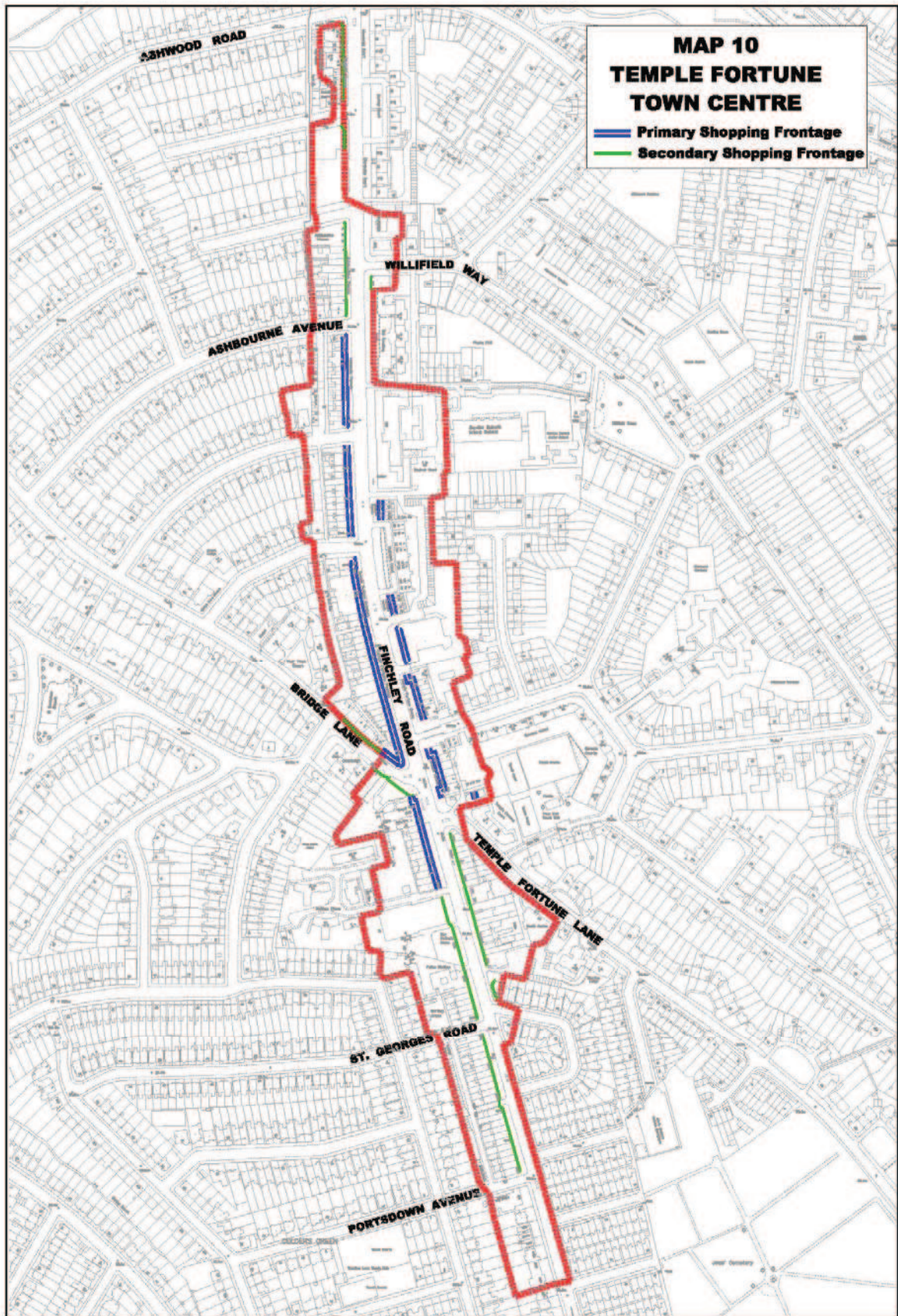
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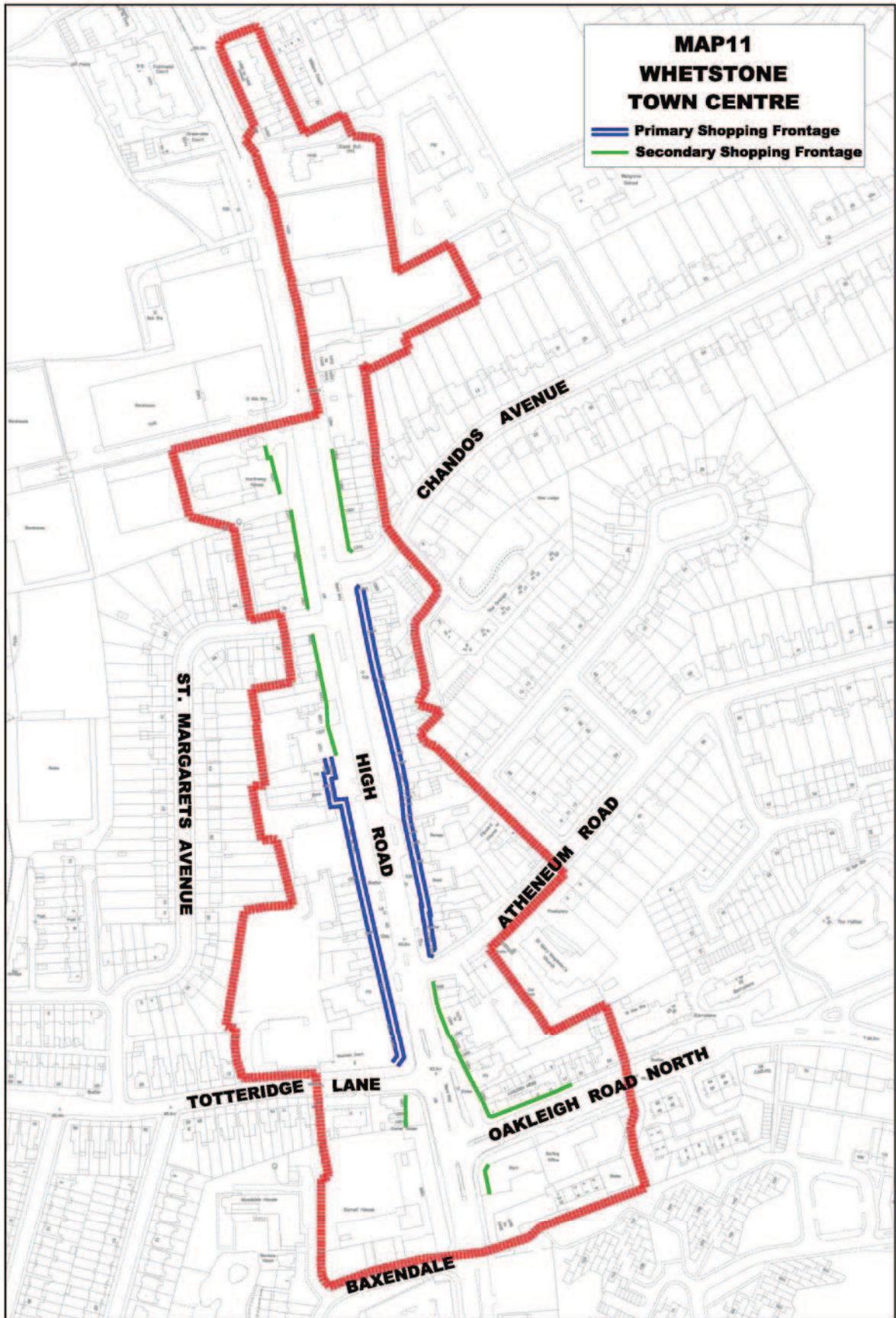
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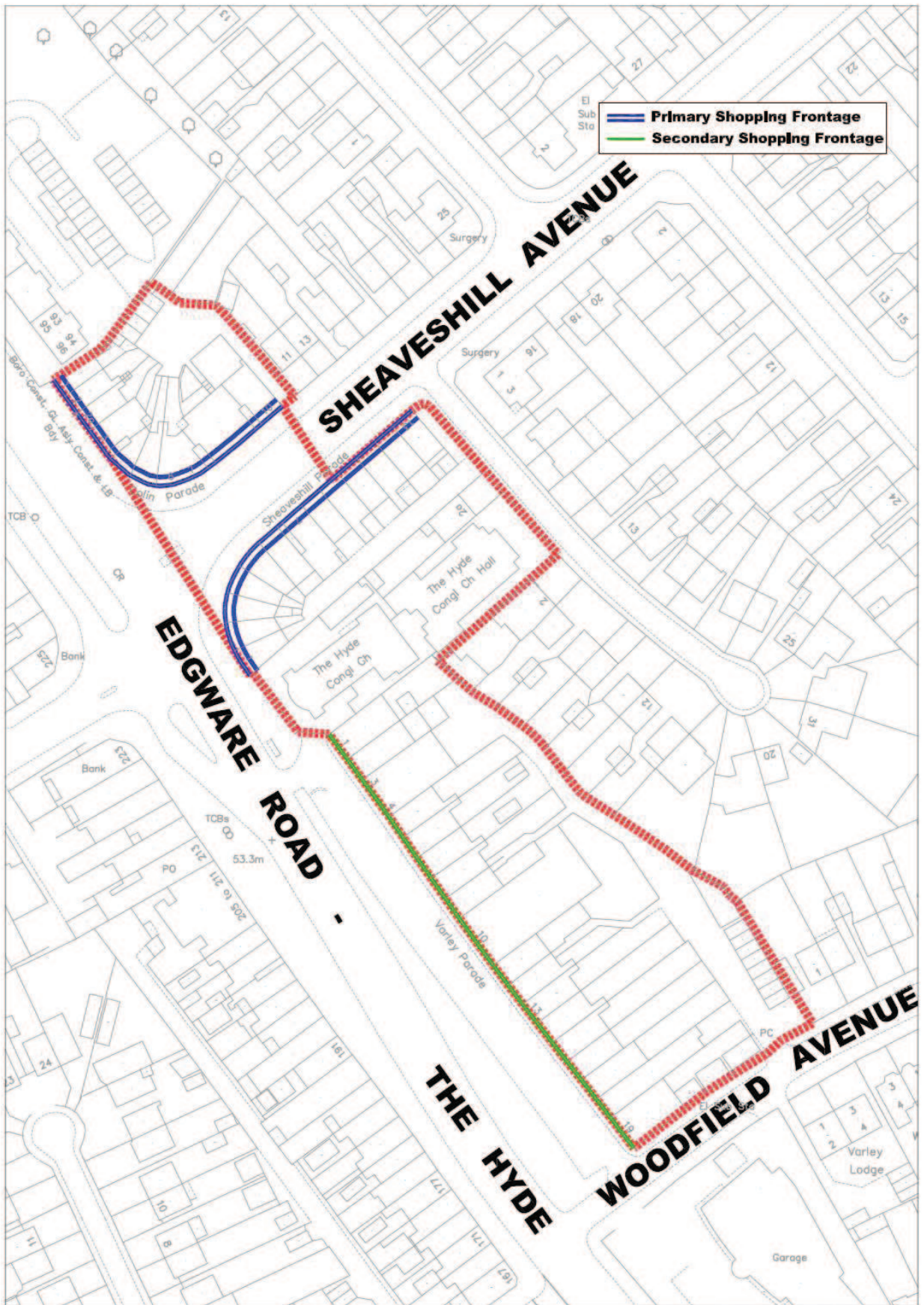


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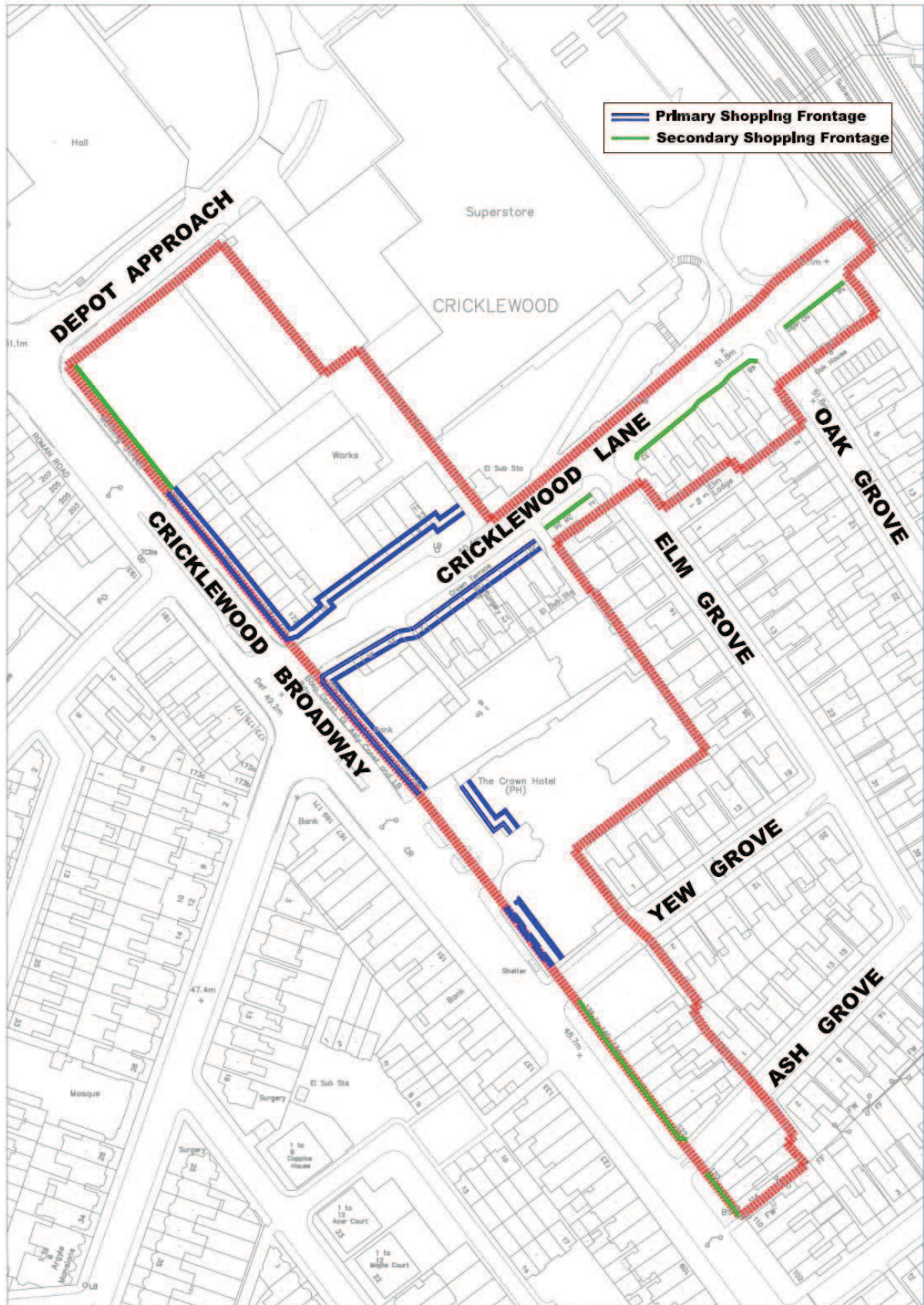
Map No. 12 London Borough of Barnet, Proposed Alteratlons to Proposals Map (Adopted 2006)



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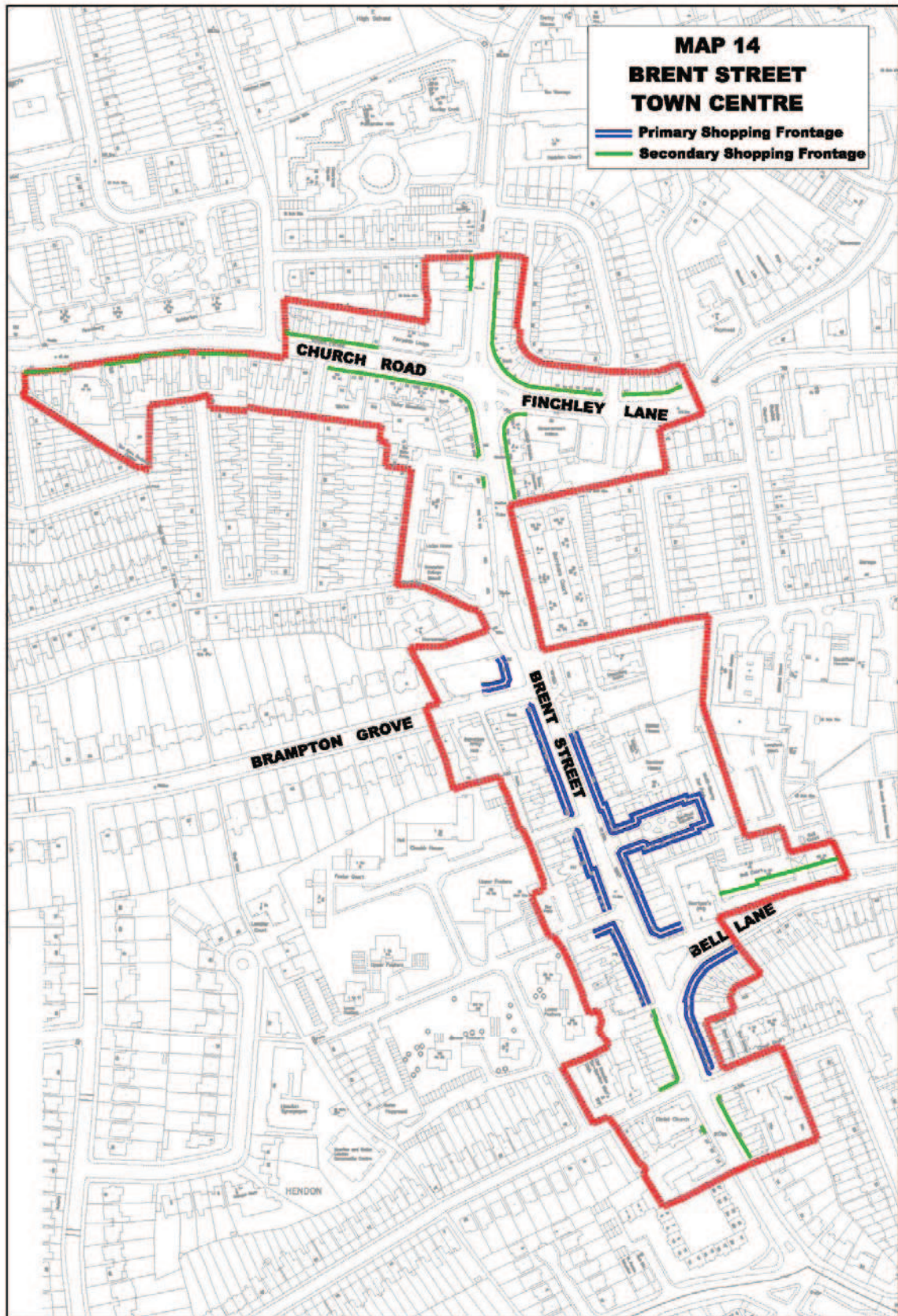
Colindale - The Hyde Town Centre Boundary

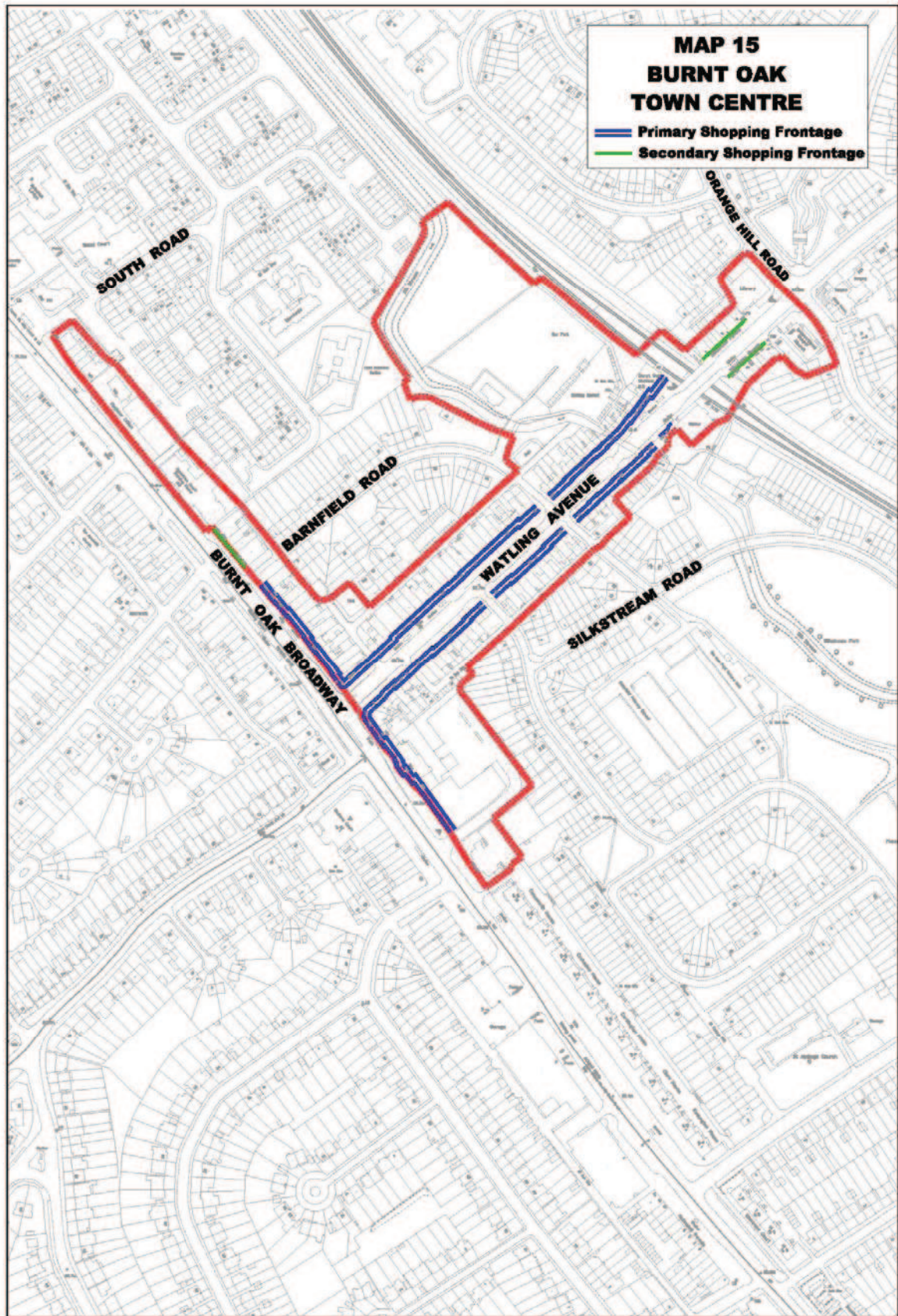
Map No. 13 London Borough of Barnet. Proposed Alterations to Proposals Map (Adopted 2006)



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Cricklewood Town Centre Boundary





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Appendix 6: Local frontages

Apex Corner

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Watford Way | 615 – 665 |
| | Apex Parade (Selvage Lane) | 1 – 5 |
| | Northway Circus | Various |

Childs Hill

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Cricklewood Lane | 289 – 305 |
| | | 336 – 374 |
| | Finchley Road | 380 – 406 |
| | | 422 – 434 |
| | | 438 – 452 |
| Hermitage Lane | 663 – 675 | |
| | 679 – 687 707 | |

Colney Hatch Lane

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|-------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Colney Hatch Lane | 67 – 103 |
| | | 121 – 133 |
| | | 144 – 156 |
| | | 166, 192 |

Deansbrook Road

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|-----------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Deansbrook Road | 199 – 249 |

East Barnet Village

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Cat Hill | 1 - 15 |
| | | 4 |
| | Church Hill Road | 1 – 43, 53 |
| | | 2 – 30 |
| | East Barnet Road | 233 – 277 |

| | | |
|--|--|-----------|
| | | 250 – 282 |
|--|--|-----------|

Friern Barnet

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|------------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Woodhouse Road | 181 – 235 |
| | Halliwick Court Parade | 1-12 |
| | Queens parade | 20-33a |
| | Lynwood Court | 1-4 |

Golders Green Road

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Frontage | Golders Green Road | 221 – 243 |
| | Princess Parade (Golders Green Road) | 1-11 |
| | Russell Parade (Golders Green Road) | 1 – 20 |
| | Russell Gardens | Park House |
| | Limes Avenue | Michael Sobell House |

Grahame Park

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|---------------|------------------|
| Frontage | The Concourse | 1 – 21, |

Great North Road

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Greenhill Parade | 1 – 27 |
| | Western parade | 1 – 14 |
| | Great North Road | Various |
| | Station Road | Various |

Hale Lane

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|----------|-------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Dean's Lane | 131 – 151 |

| | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|
| | | 156 – 174 |
| | Hale Lane | 129 – 161 |

Hampden Square

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Hampden Square | 1 – 25 |
| | | 2 – 24 |
| | Onslow Parade (Hampden Square) | 1 – 18 |
| | Hampden Way | 1 – 9 |

Holders Hill Circus

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Bittacy Hill | 2 – 20, 36 |
| | | 7 – 15 |
| | Dollis Road | 137 – 143 |
| | Thornfield Parade (Holders Hill Road) | 3 – 10 |
| | Langstone Way | 2, 28 |

Market Place

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Lyttelton Road | 1 – 23 |
| | Market Place | 1-11, 17-57 |
| | | 2 – 56 |

New Southgate

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Frontage | Friern Barnet Road | 23, 27, 31 – 39 |

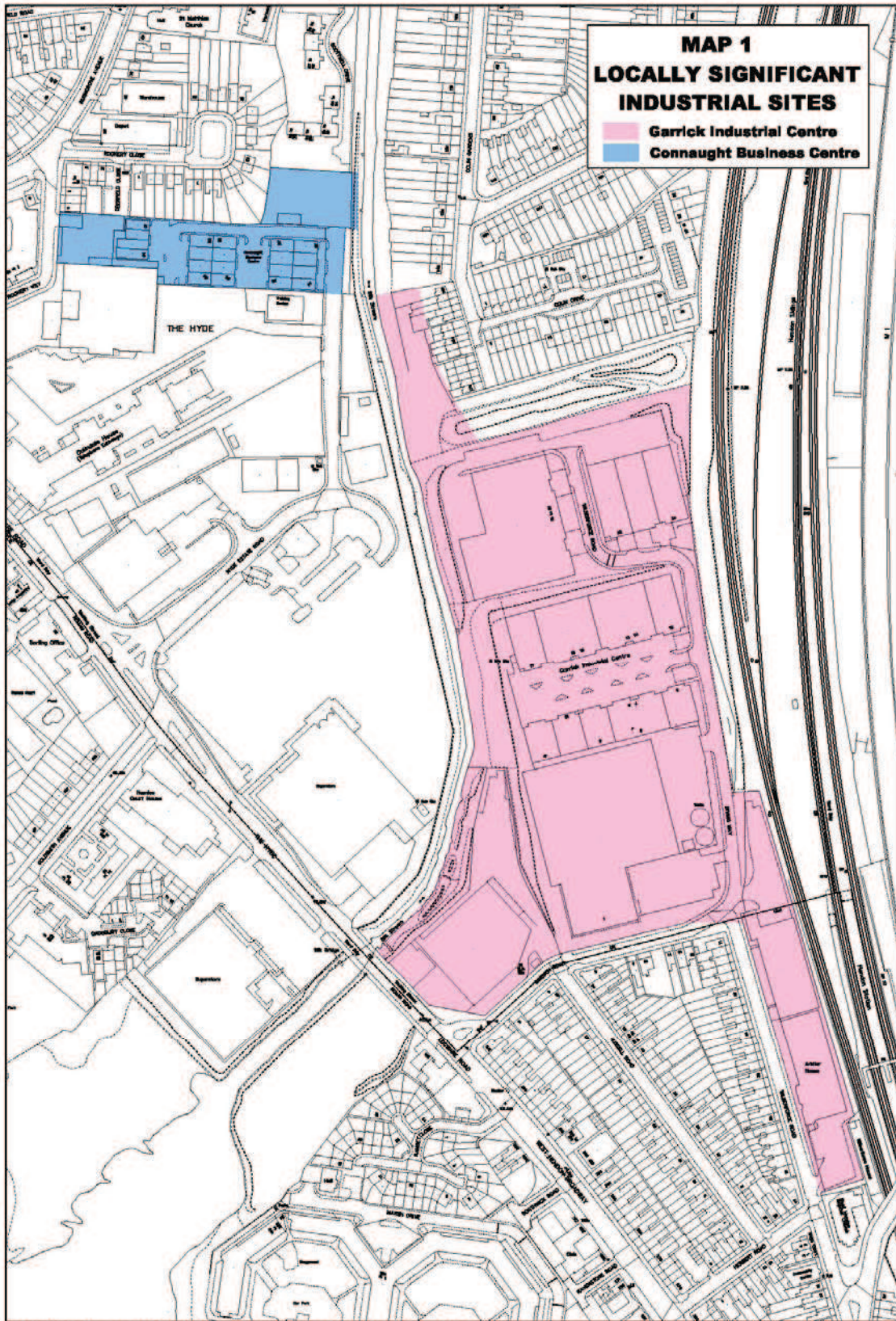
West Hendon

| | Street Name | Building Numbers |
|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Frontage | West Hendon Broadway | 129 – 155, 161 – 165, 177 – 211 |
| | | 162 – 246, 252 260 – 276 |

Appendix 7: Locally Significant Industrial Sites, Industrial Business Parks and Business Locations Maps

| Name of employment site | Local Designation | Size (ha) ⁵ | Map Number |
|---|--------------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Garrick Industrial Centre & Connaught Business Centre | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 2.3 0.5 | 1 |
| Squire's Lane & Regents Park Road employment cluster | Business Locations | 0.5 0.7 | 2 |
| Bunns Lane, Mill Hill Industrial Estate & Granard Business Centre | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 0.5 0.4 0.2 | 3 |
| Brunswick Business Park | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 1.8 | 4 |
| Finchley Industrial Estate | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 0.6 | 5 |
| Grenville Place | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 1.8 | 6 |
| Hadley Manor Trading Estate | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 0.4 | 7 |
| Lancaster Road Industrial Estate & Redrose Trading Centre | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 0.7 0.1 | 8 |
| North London Business Park | Industrial Business Park | 2.6 | 9 |
| Queens Road Industrial Estate | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 0.4 | 10 |
| Oakleigh Road South | Locally Significant Industrial Sites | 1.7 | 11 |

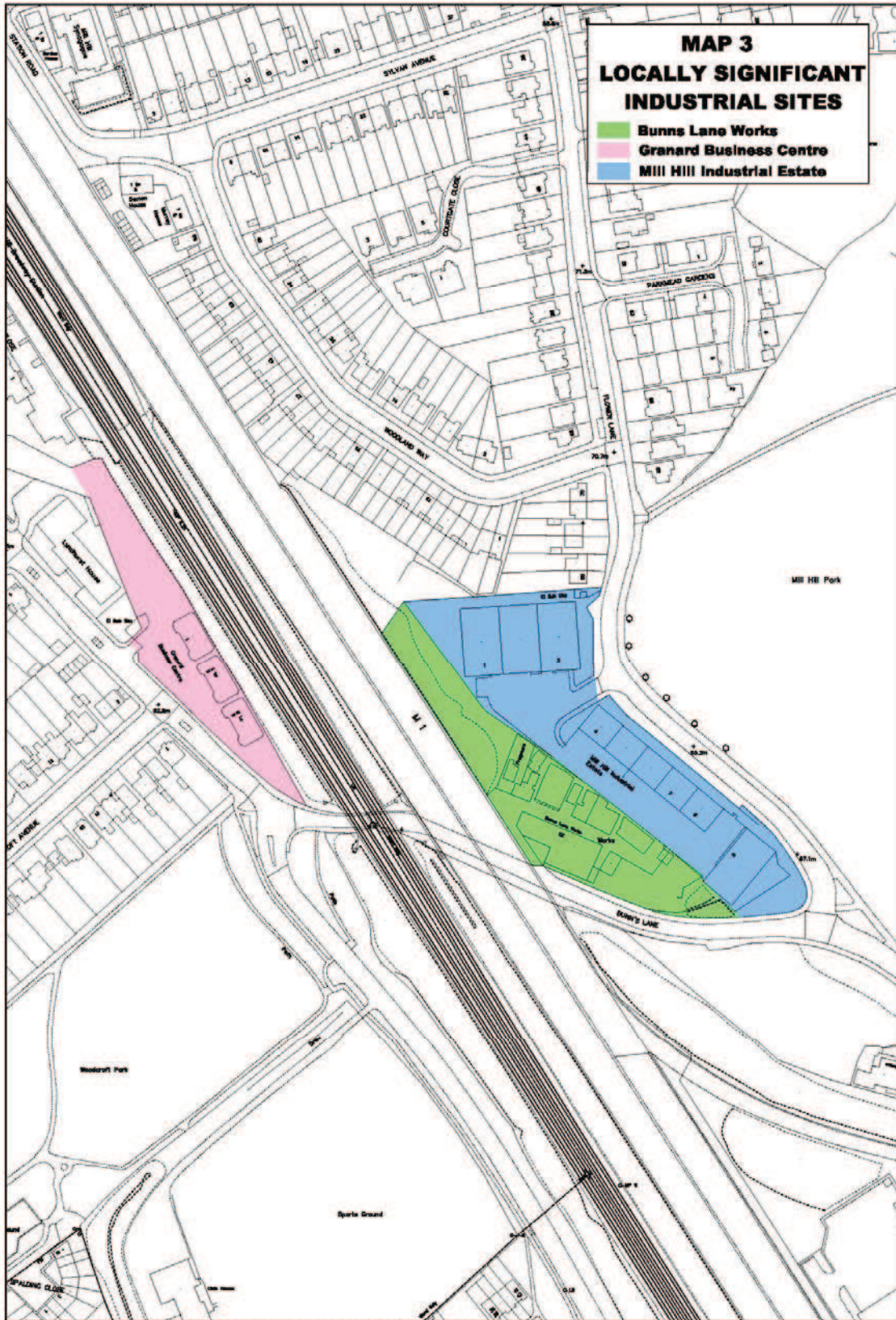
⁵ Size is the net employment land area in hectares which is an estimate of the area taken up by the buildings based on GIS calculations and visual site survey

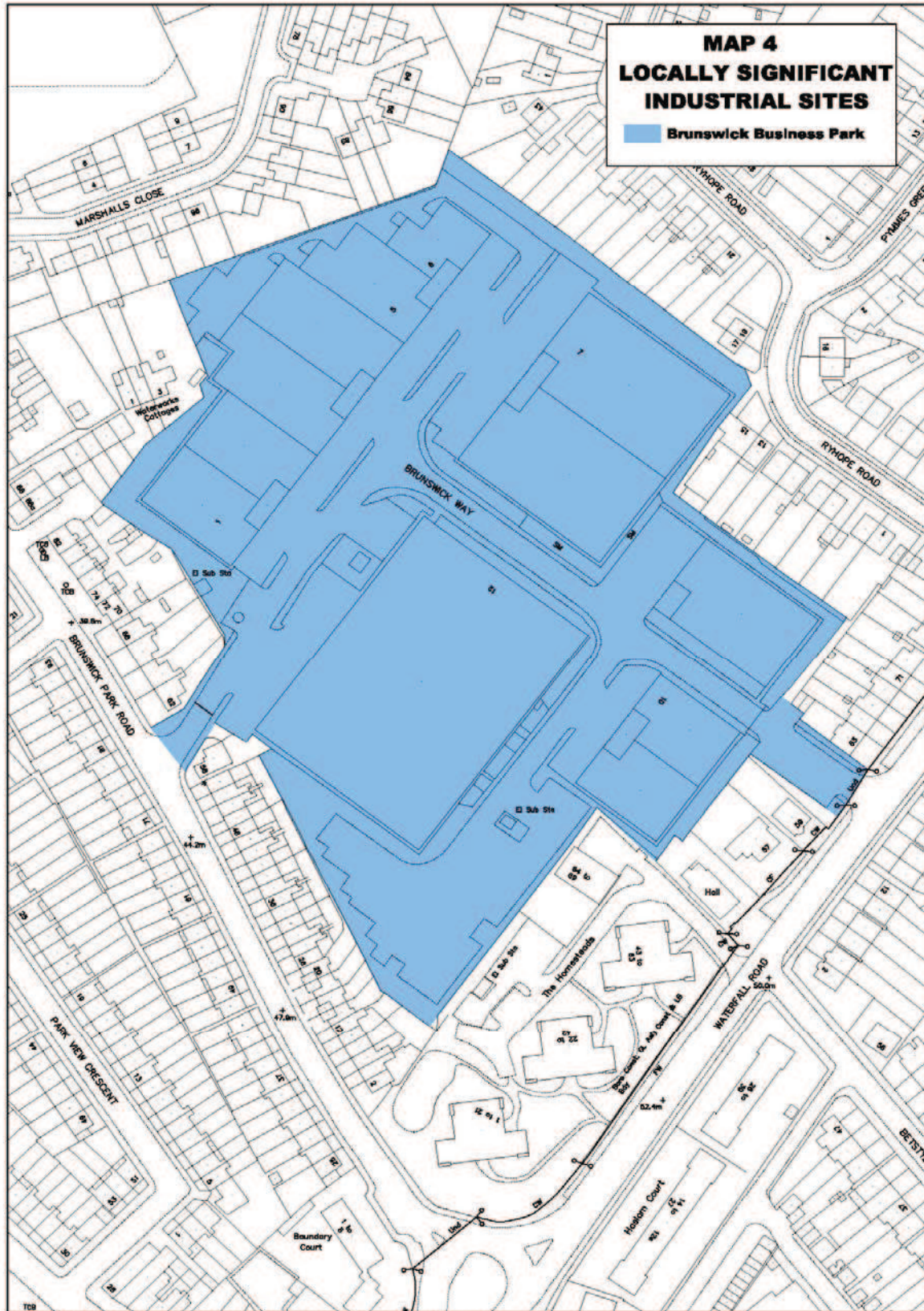


Map No. 17 London Borough of Barnet. Proposed Alterations to Proposals Map (Adopted 2006)



Business Locations





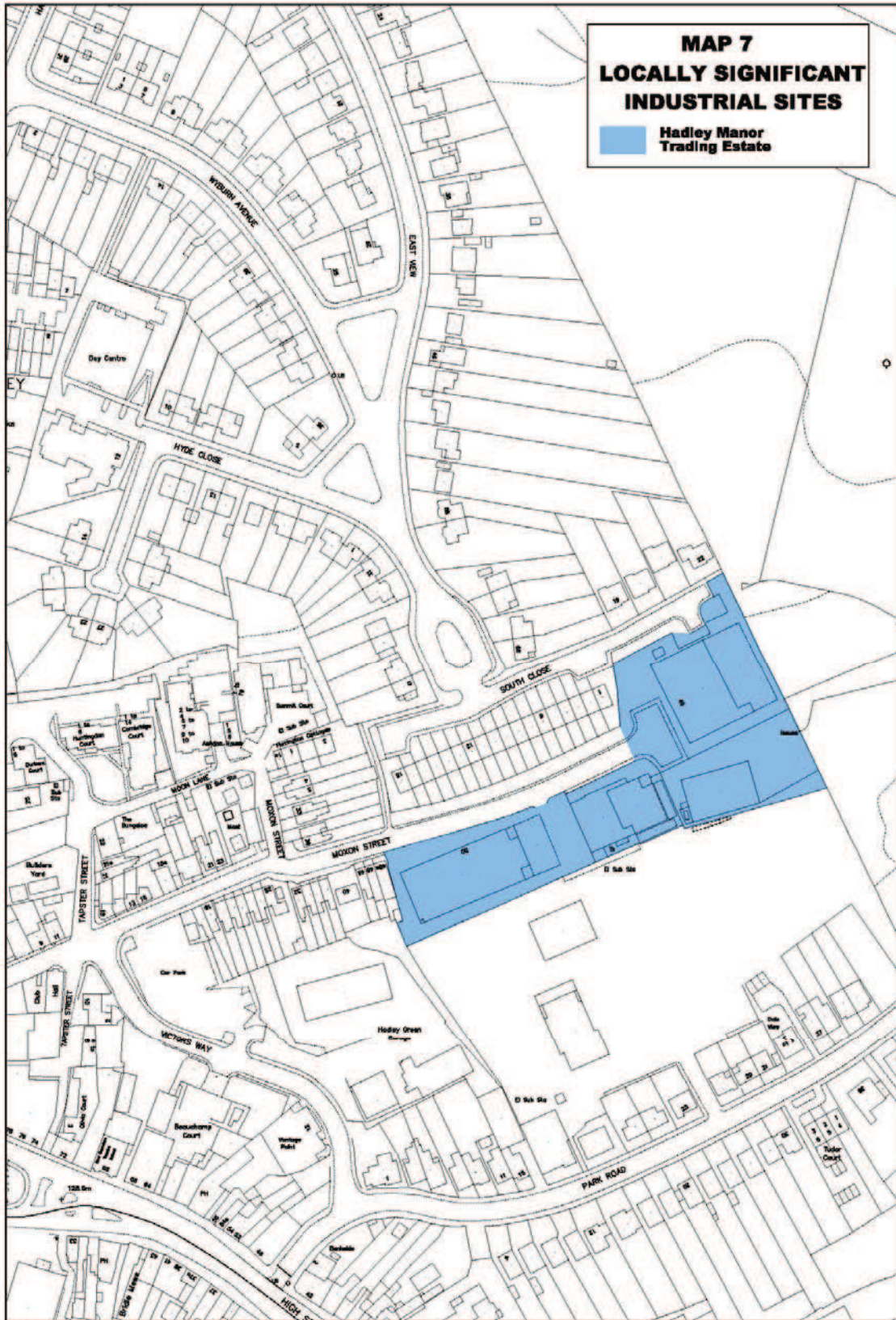
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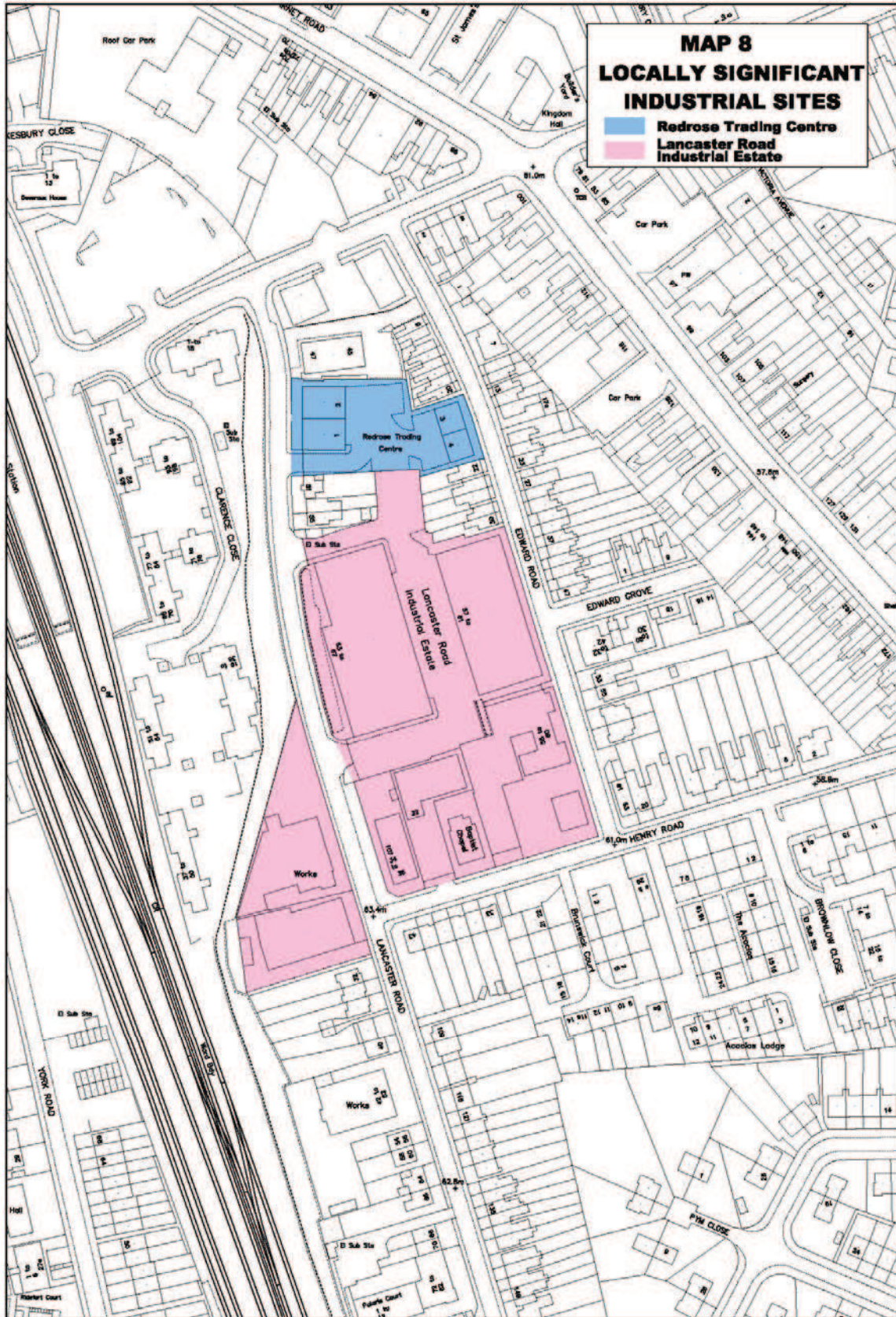


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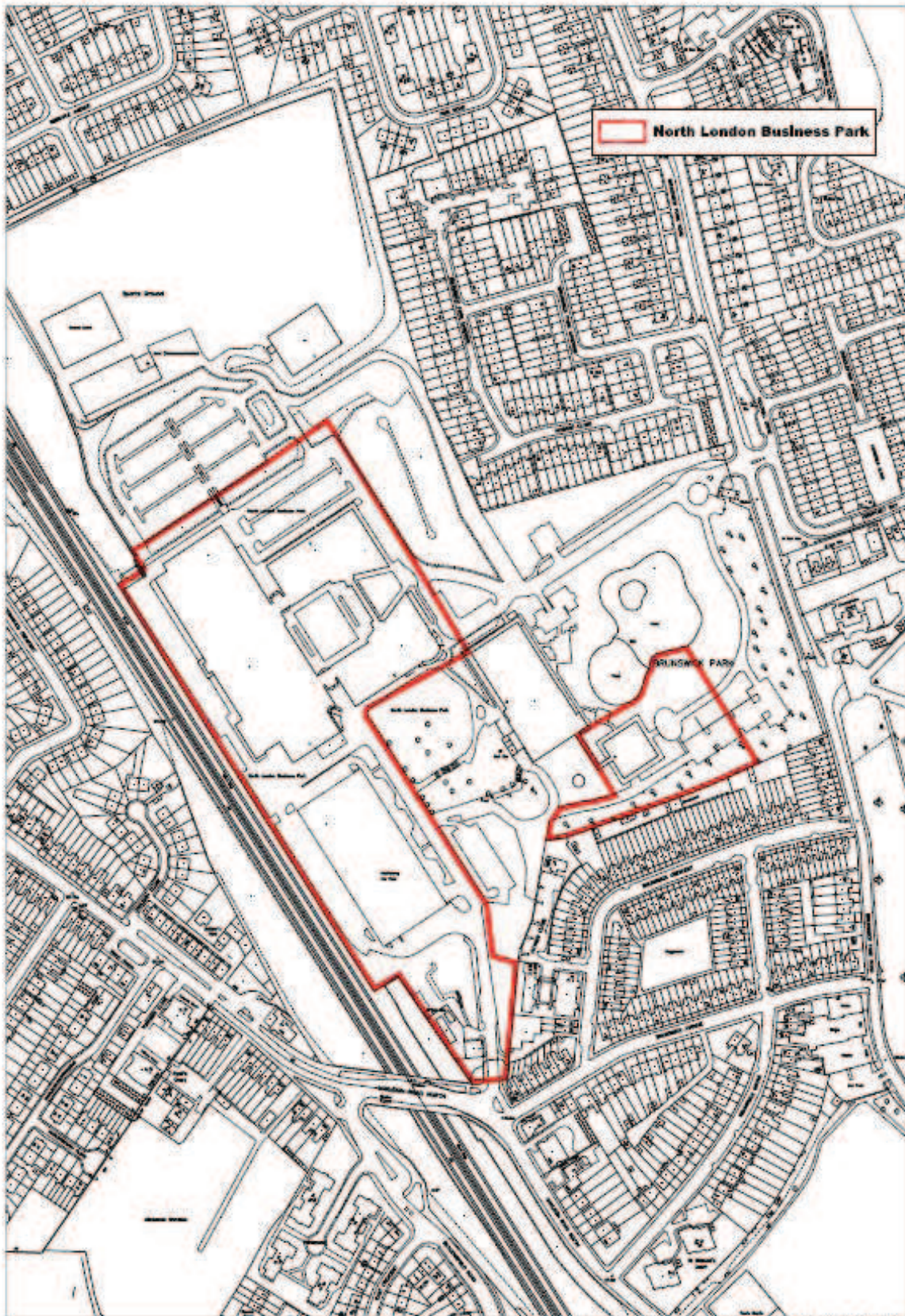
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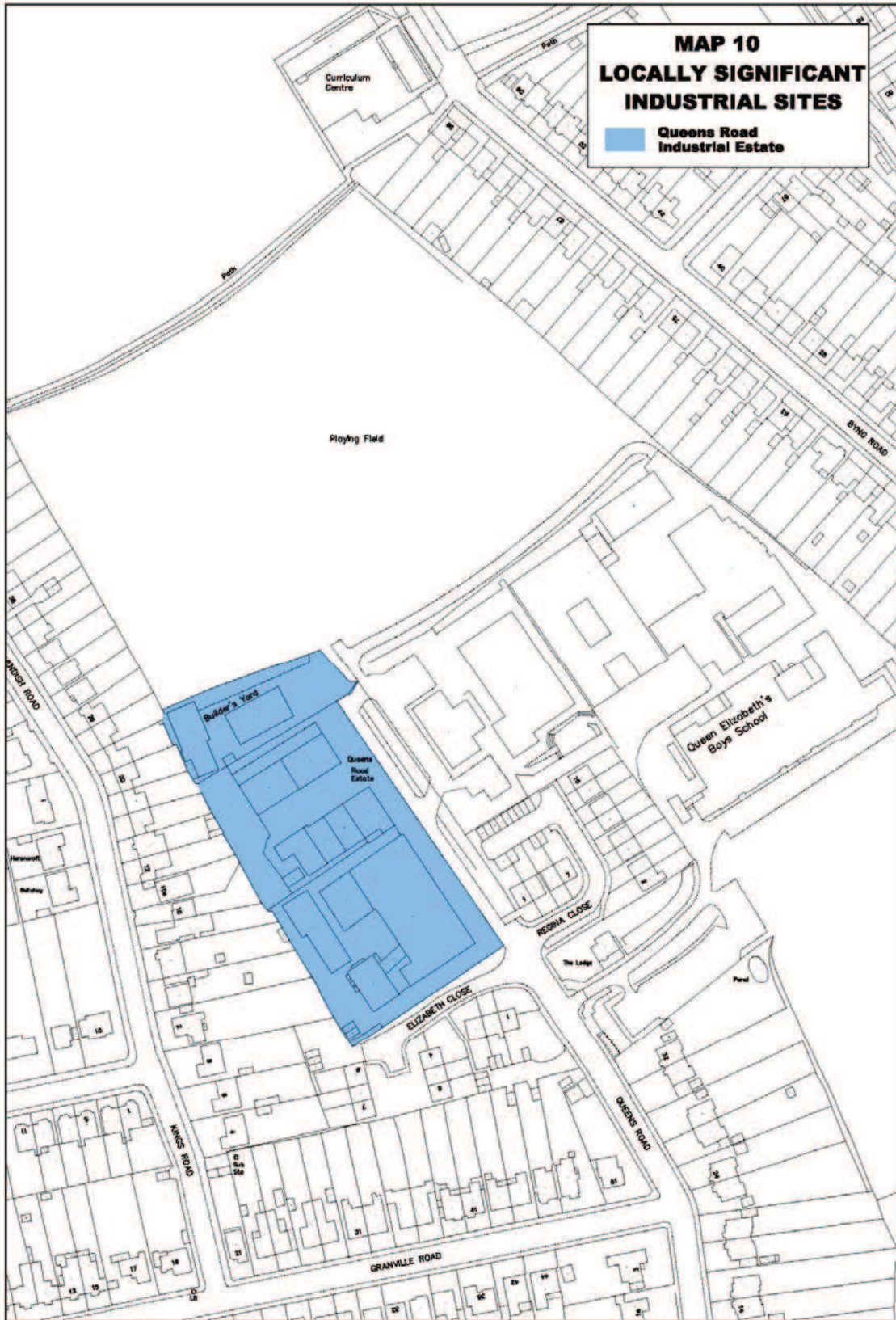
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Map 9. London Borough of Barnet. Proposed Alterations to Proposals Map (Adopted 2006)

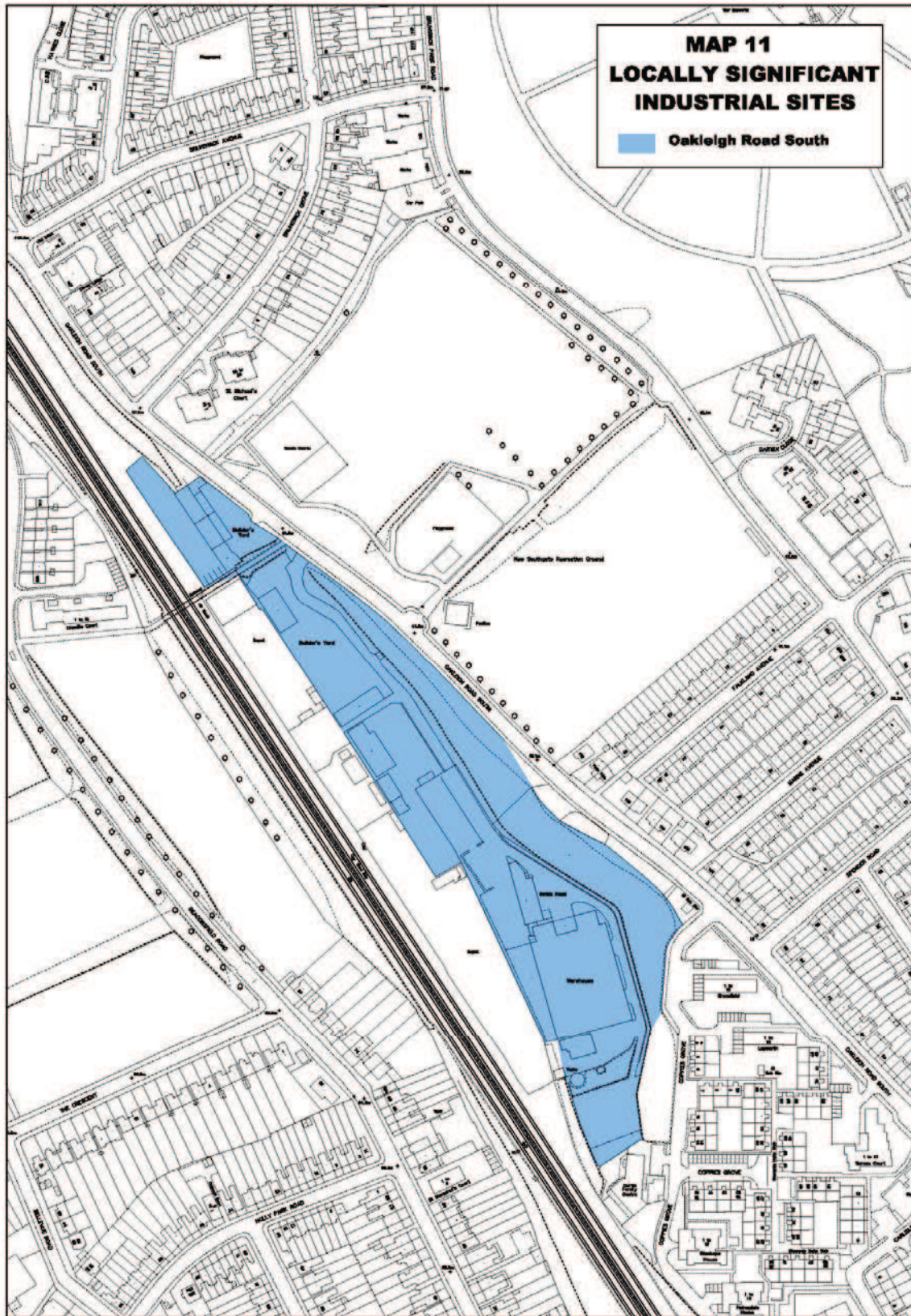


Industrial Business Park

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| | |
|----------------|---|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 July 2012 |
| Subject | Events in Parks Policy |
| Report of | Cabinet Member for Environment |
| Summary | <p>This report seeks approval to use the Events in Parks Policy for the hiring of parks and open spaces for organised events.</p> <p>The report also seeks approval to hire parks and open spaces for private events in line with the Events in Parks Policy.</p> |

| | |
|---|---|
| Officer Contributors | Matthew Gunyon – Leisure Contracts Manager |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | N/A |
| Function of | Cabinet |
| Enclosures | Annex 1 - Events in Parks Consultation Analysis Annex 2 - Events in Parks Policy Annex 3 - Events in Parks Equalities Impact Assessment |
| Contact for Further Information: | Matthew Gunyon (matthew.gunyon@barnet.gov.uk) Tel: 0208 359 7403) |

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 That Cabinet approve the implementation of the Events in Parks Policy.**
- 1.2 That Cabinet approve subject to any legal restrictions the hiring of the four sites as identified in the Events in Parks Policy for Private Events.**
- 1.3 That authority is delegated to the Cabinet Member to approve the review and amendment of the Events in Parks Policy.**
- 1.4 That authority is delegated to the Interim Director of Environment Planning and Regeneration to waive charges for events that offer community benefit.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 None

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 *Better services with less money* – Over the coming years the council faces a number of strategic challenges, including the need to: (i) improve its services, at a time of reduced funding; (ii) prepare for significant growth within the borough; (iii) modernise services for changing needs; and (iv) raise resident satisfaction to reflect the improved services. The Events in Parks Policy aims to support the Council's drive to provide these improved services with less money through managing parks and open spaces effectively and sustainably across Barnet.
- 3.2 *A successful London suburb* – The Events in Parks Policy aims to protect and enhance our natural and built environment so that the borough is clean and green. With a robust policy in place the Council will be able to ensure there is a successful events programme offering a wide range of events and activities across Barnet whilst having the controls in place for managing the number, size and location of these events.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 It is recognised that there is a risk that the new policy could generate negative feeling with local communities as highlighted from the consultation responses.
- 4.2 In order to mitigate the risk the events in Parks Policy has been redrafted in order to control the impact events have on the local community through the use of restrictions which are designed to manage the size, frequency, and number of events held in each park along with existing booking processes and procedures which are designed to ensure each and every event is managed and operated safely.

4.3 Within the consultation a small number of residents also noted that they would seek to raise a legal challenge to the policy and the use of parks and open spaces for private events.

4.4 The revised policy takes into account residents concerns as raised through the consultation and seeks to mitigate these through restriction in the total number, frequency and size of events in the Parks and Open Spaces.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

5.1 Pursuant to the Equalities Act 2010, the Council is under an obligation to have due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations in the contexts of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy, and maternity, religion belief and sexual orientation. The duty applies to a person, who is not a public authority but who exercises public functions and therefore must, in the exercise of those functions, have due regard to the general equality duty. This includes any organisation contracted by a local authority to provide services on its behalf.

5.2 The Council completed (See Annex 3) a full Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) in order to understand if any groups with protected characteristics would be affected by the implementation of the Events in Parks Policy.

5.3 Section 1f of the EIA notes that; it is not considered that any one section of the community will benefit exclusively from the new policy.

5.4 Section 1g of the EIA notes that; the analysis concludes that there is no potential negative impact on any of the protected groups

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

6.1 The Greenspaces department has an annual income target of £80,000 for event income.

6.2 The income target was increased from a baseline of £30,000 as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The increase of £50,000 spread over 2011/12 (£20,000) and 2012/13 (£30,000) led to a review of the fees and charges for events and to the formation of the Events in Parks Policy.

6.3 The income generated from events in parks is part of the Greenspaces budget and is used to support the expenditure for the maintenance, improvement and upkeep of Barnet's parks and open spaces.

- 6.4 There is no impact on staffing. Event applications are managed by the Greenspaces team within Environment Planning and Regeneration. It is anticipated that this function will remain within the existing team within the existing resources.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Legal advice was sought from Counsel on the use of its parks and open spaces for private events, in summary Counsel main conclusions are:

- 7.2 **Wedding ceremonies:** Barnet has no legal power to permit outdoor wedding ceremonies to be conducted in its parks and open spaces. This is because the Marriages Act 1949 and the Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005, provide a comprehensive code regulating what premises may be approved to conduct civil services and these measures, properly interpreted, provide that outdoor ceremonies are not permissible.

- 7.3 **Wedding receptions and other types of private events** – in principle, the Localism Act 2011 (and other pre-existing legislation) should provide Barnet with the legal power necessary to allow it to conduct/permit wedding receptions and other types of private events in its parks and open spaces. However, this is subject to any limitations which apply because of pre-existing legislation- in particular, section 10 of the Open Spaces Act 1906 (the 1906 Act), and/or any other restrictions) for example, in the form of restrictive covenants.

Section 10 of the 1906 Act provides (in relevant part);

“A local authority who have acquired any estate or interest in or control over any open space or burial ground under this Act shall, subject to any conditions under which the estate, interest, or control was so acquired-

- (a) hold and administer the open space or burial ground in trust to allow, and with a view to, the enjoyment thereof by the public as an open space within the meaning of this Act and under proper control and regulation and for no other purpose...”

- 7.4 Further and in any event, even if one or more of Barnet’s parks are affected by the 1906 Act it may be possible to lawfully permit private events in such spaces, provided that Barnet adopts a policy which ensures that the relevant park or open space remains freely accessible for use by the general public while the event is being held. Determining what scale and frequency of events will be permissible in each park and open spaces is a question of fact and degree to be determined following consideration of the particular circumstances of each case.

In order to minimise the risk of successful legal challenge, Counsel advised that Barnet should take appropriate mitigating steps (see 7.1.4

below) and limit the extent to which private events are permitted by reference to the restrictions imposed on non-recreational use of public parks and open spaces by pre-existing statutory powers..

7.5 To a certain extent, Barnet can take positive steps to mitigate its exposure to the risk of legal challenge in connection with its proposed policy regarding private events in parks and open spaces by:

- a) scheduling events during periods when empirical evidence demonstrates park usage is lower;
- b) limiting the sites available for private events to areas or sections of the relevant park or open space which are less frequented by ordinary users;
- c) instituting appropriate measures to ensure that any inconvenience or disruption caused by private events to other park users' activities is minimised;
- d) if appropriate, extending opening hours to offset any period in which use is restricted; and
- e) using limitations provided in pre-existing park-related legislation as a touchstone in considering what level of private use is compatible with any section 10 of the 1906 Act 'statutory trust' duty.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (Relevant section from the Constitution, Key/Non-Key Decision)

8.1 Constitution Part 3, Responsibility for Functions – Section 3.8, Responsibilities of the Cabinet includes responsibility for 'Considering policy initiatives, initiating new policy proposals and determining the way in which policy reviews will be carried out'.

8.2 This decision is considered 'Key', by nature of having an effect on two or more wards of the borough.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 Aims of the Policy

9.1.1 The council completed a consultation exercise from the 4th November 2011 to the 16th January 2012. The exercise was designed to consult residents on the draft policy and specifically present the plan for Private Events in pre-identified pilot sites.

9.1.2 The consultation received over 1,200 responses with a large majority showing the concerns residents had over the policy and its impact on their local parks. The full consultation analysis is attached detailing the

responses received below is a breakdown of the representations by park.

| Total Number of Responses by Park | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Park | Positive | Negative | Neutral | TOTALS |
| Edgwarebury Park | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| | 14% | 43% | 43% | 0.6% |
| Hendon Park | 2 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| | 25% | 75% | 0% | 0.6% |
| Highlands Gardens | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| | 0% | 100% | 0% | 0.6% |
| Lyttelton Playing Fields | 2 | 296 | 0 | 348 |
| | 1% | 99% | 0% | 27.7% |
| Oak Hill Park | 1 | 54 | 2 | 57 |
| | 2% | 95% | 4% | 4.5% |
| Princes Park | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| | 13% | 63% | 25% | 0.6% |
| Scratchwood | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | 100% | 0% | 0% | 0.1% |
| Victoria Park | 0 | 720 | 41 | 761 |
| | 0% | 95% | 5% | 60.6% |
| Unknown | 2 | 55 | 2 | 59 |
| | 3% | 93% | 3% | 4.7% |
| TOTAL | 10 | 1196 | 50 | 1256 |
| | 1% | 95% | 4% | |

9.1.3 The concerns raised as part of the consultation are mitigated through the redrafted Events Policy, the Events, the updated Terms and Conditions and through the existing hire and event procedures.

9.2 Private Event Restrictions

9.2.1 On consideration of the responses received from the consultation, and subsequent analysis the council removed Oak Hill Park, Victoria Park and Lyttelton Playing Fields from the list of sites available for private events and Highlands Gardens from the policy in its entirety as it is a small park with no open areas where an event could be held and in the middle of a residential area where parking would be a huge concern.

9.2.2 Restrictions will be applied to the remaining pilot sites in order to mitigate the concerns raised by residents. These restrictions are detailed within the attached policy but they are designed to restrict the;

- Maximum number of events in each year
- Length of each event including the set up and take down
- Maximum number of attendance

9.2.3 The above restrictions are designed to control and manage the hiring of parks for private events, allowing the close control over the number and size of events in order to reduce the impact on the local community.

This has been assessed on a case by case basis for each park in scope.

9.2.4 With the events points system (detailed below) the council will be able to manage the number of large events but still allow small low impact community events to continue.

9.3 Event Points

In order to allow the council to manage the number of events held in any one year within the policy the council has developed a method whereby events are attributed a number of Event Points depending on the attendance levels and each park is allocated a maximum number of Event Points. These points have been calculated taking into account comments and concerns through the consultation, size of the park, its suitability for large events and according to its already existing event programme. The below table summarises some of the parks and their allocated Event Points and the number of points attributed to the already existing Events Programme (A full list of parks and their allocated Event Points is detailed within the Events in Parks Policy).

| Parks (Summary) | Allocated Event Points | Points Used Under Current Events Programme | Number of Fun Fairs Usually Held | Number of Festivals or Shows Usually Held |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---|
| Cherry Tree Wood (N2) | 15 | 6 | 0 | x2 (6pts) |
| Edgwarebury Park (HA8) | 18 | 0 | x | x |
| Friary Park (N12) | 18 | 8 | x3 (9pts) | x1 (3pts) |
| Hendon Park (NW4) | 18 | 9 | x1 (3pts) | x1 (5pts) |
| Littlewood (NW11) | 5 | 1 | x | x1 (1pt) |
| Lyttelton Playing Fields (N2) | 15 | 0 | x | x |
| Montrose Playing Fields (NW9) | 18 | 9 | x3 (9pts) | x |
| Oak Hill Park (EN4) | 25 | 20 | 0 | x8 (19pts) |
| Princes Park (NW11) | 5 | 1 | x | x1 (1pt) |
| Scratchwood (NW7) | 20 | 0 | x | 0 |
| Victoria Park (N3) | 15 | 9 | x3 (3pts) | x |

Points are calculated using the following formula; (Park Size Allocation) + (5pts for an Existing Car Park) + (5pts for a dedicated Event Space [e.g. Amphitheatre]) – (5pts if the Park is classed as a Natural Greenspace) – (10pts if the Park is classed as a Local Nature Reserve) – (5pts if classed for Small Events Only) = Total Event Points

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Events in Parks Consultation Analysis – Annex 1
- 10.2 Events in Parks Policy – Annex 2
- 10.3 Events in Parks Equalities Impact Assessment – Annex 3

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials) | MC |
| Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials) | PJ |

Annex 1

1 INTRODUCTION

The consultation took place between 4th November 2011 and 16th January 2012 and was designed to gather residents' opinions on the new Events in Parks Policy in order to help understand key areas that the council needs to address before implementing.

In particular, the consultation centred around formalising the existing event categories and to explore the extension of this service in to Private Events.

The findings from the consultation were used to update the Draft Events in Parks Policy.

2 AIMS OF THE EVENTS IN PARKS POLICY

The key aims of the Event in Parks Policy are in summary to:

- Enable local events for local people.
- Make better use of parks and open spaces.
- Generate income which will contribute to the overall budget for improvement to parks.
- Look at introducing private events which will also contribute towards the income targets for Greenspaces.

3 RESPONSE TO THE CONSULTATION

The Events in Parks consultation received a total of 1,256 responses.

The table below shows the responses received broken down by park:

| Total Number or Responses by Park | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Park | TOTALS | % |
| Edwarebury Park | 7 | 0.6% |
| Hendon Park | 8 | 0.6% |
| Highlands Gardens | 7 | 0.6% |
| Lyttelton Playing Fields | 348 | 27.7% |
| Oak Hill Park | 57 | 4.5% |
| Princes Park | 8 | 0.6% |
| Scratchwood | 1 | 0.1% |
| Victoria Park | 761 | 60.6% |
| Unknown | 59 | 4.7% |
| TOTAL | 1256 | 100.0% |

3.1 The table below shows the method of which all the responses to the consultation were presented to the Council.

| Method of Response | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Park | Phone | Post | Email | Petition |
| Edwarebury Park | 0 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Hendon Park | 2 | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Highlands Gardens | 0 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Lyttelton Playing Fields | 4 | 5 | 339* | 0 |
| Oak Hill Park | 3 | 10 | 44 | 0 |
| Princes Park | 1 | 2 | 5 | 0 |
| Scratchwood | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Victoria Park | 3 | 17 | 352 | 389 |
| Unknown | 0 | 20 | 39 | 0 |
| TOTALS | 13 | 57 | 797 | 389 |

*267 of these emails were received via an online petition however they were treated as email responses due to the Council's policy for the way in which petitions should be presented to the council.

3.2 Each response received was logged by park, area of concern/suggestion, method of response as well as being logged by opinion (For, Against, Neutral)
See Appendix 1 for the full details

3.3 Responses in Scope

- 3.3.1 The Events in Parks Policy has been amended to reflect some of the key concerns raised in from the consultation these include Restricting;
- The maximum number of events in each park per year, using a point based system to further restrict larger impact events.
 - The maximum number of Fun Fairs to three per park per year.
 - The maximum attendance for Private Events.
 - The hours of hire and the maximum hire length for Private Events.

Due to the concerns raised by residents through the consultation process Oak Hill, Victoria Park and Lyttelton Playing Fields have been removed from the list of parks that are available for Private Events.

Highlands Gardens has since been removed from the Policy due to its lack of suitability to host events.

- 3.3.2 Other areas of concern raised from the consultation are already mitigated through the existing booking process and the new Terms and Conditions of Hire these include;
- Traffic Management within a Park.
 - Repair of any damage to the Park.
 - Providing toilet facilities.
 - Removal and proper disposal of Litter and waste.
 - The control and management of on site security.

- 3.3.3 The following concerns are mitigated through existing Council polices and procedures;
- The control and management of parking.
 - The management of Noise and Light Pollution.
 - Safeguarding and Child Protection.

3.4 Responses Outside of Scope

3.4.1 The following concerns raised will be monitored going forwards in order to ascertain their level of impact;

- The distress caused to residents.
- The impact on local wildlife.
- If there is an increase in crime rates.
- The effect on public rights of way.
- The ruining of the smell of a park
- The enforcement and the need for Council on site management of an event

3.4.2 The following areas of concern are outside of the scope of the Events in Parks Policy;

- Threat of Community or Legal action.
- The effect on Health and Wellbeing.
- The impact on personal property prices.
- The consultation process used including the lack of direct consultation.

4 CONCLUSION

In conclusion any comments received from the consultation that were in scope were either mitigated through existing systems and process or used to update the Events in Parks Policy itself. Any comments received that were out of scope will be monitored in order to understand any impacts in the future, if there are any they will be brought into scope as part of the policy review process.

Matthew Gunyon
Greenspaces
Environment Planning and Regeneration
April 2012

Appendix 1

| Responses Percentage Breakdown | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Park | For | Against | Neutral | TOTAL |
| Edgwarebury Park | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 |
| | 14% | 43% | 43% | |
| Hendon Park | 2 | 6 | 0 | 8 |
| | 25% | 75% | 0% | |
| Highlands Gardens | 0 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| | 0% | 100% | 0% | |
| Lyttelton Playing Fields | 2 | 346 | 0 | 348 |
| | 1% | 99% | 0% | |
| Oak Hill Park | 1 | 54 | 2 | 57 |
| | 2% | 95% | 4% | |
| Princes Park | 1 | 5 | 2 | 8 |
| | 13% | 63% | 25% | |
| Scratchwood | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| | 100% | 0% | 0% | |
| Victoria Park | 0 | 720 | 41 | 761 |
| | 0% | 95% | 5% | |
| Unknown | 2 | 55 | 2 | 59 |
| | 3% | 93% | 3% | |
| TOTAL | 10 | 1196 | 50 | 1256 |

| Concerns Raised | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | Edgwarebury Park | Hendon Park | Highlands Gardens | Lyttelton Playing Fields | Oak Hill Park | Princes Park | Scratchwood | Victoria Park | Unknown | TOTALS |
| Parking | 5 | 5 | 7 | 133 | 38 | 5 | 0 | 609 | 18 | 820 |
| Traffic Management | 0 | 0 | 0 | 280 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 526 | 11 | 774 |
| Spoil the Park | 1 | 1 | 4 | 281 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 503 | 14 | 764 |
| Damage to Park | 0 | 0 | 2 | 277 | 8 | 1 | 0 | 504 | 11 | 753 |
| Noise | 3 | 5 | 6 | 313 | 29 | 6 | 0 | 208 | 18 | 538 |
| Distress to Residents | 1 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 432 | 6 | 464 |
| Event Size/ Attendance | 0 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 0 | 426 | 12 | 459 |
| Frequency | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 1 | 0 | 402 | 3 | 415 |
| Security | 2 | 2 | 1 | 277 | 12 | 1 | 0 | 139 | 4 | 388 |
| Safeguarding | 0 | 1 | 0 | 268 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 63 | 2 | 290 |
| Impact on Wildlife | 0 | 0 | 0 | 274 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 288 |
| Threat of community action | 0 | 0 | 0 | 217 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 64 | 1 | 282 |
| Light Pollution | 0 | 0 | 0 | 211 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 32 | 1 | 247 |
| Litter | 2 | 2 | 4 | 26 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 84 | 21 | 154 |
| Crime | 0 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 11 | 2 | 0 | 85 | 13 | 131 |
| Toilet Facilities | 0 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 19 | 0 | 0 | 86 | 3 | 121 |
| Effect on Health and Wellbeing | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 67 | 7 | 81 |
| Public Rights of Way | 0 | 0 | 4 | 10 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 42 | 5 | 62 |
| Impact of personal property (prices, views etc) | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 19 | 5 | 47 |
| Lack of Direct Consultation | 0 | 0 | 1 | 11 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 2 | 47 |
| Consultation Process | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 4 | 38 |
| Odour | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 12 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 28 |
| Enforcement | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 14 | 2 | 22 |
| Finish Time | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 19 |
| Threat of Legal Challenge/JR | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 16 |
| Park Needs Requires Investment | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 |

Suggestions and Positives Received

| | Edgwarebury Park | Hendon Park | Highlands Gardens | Lyttelton Playing Fields | Oak Hill Park | Princes Park | Scratchwood | Victoria Park | Unknown | TOTALS |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------|----------|
| Good use of Park | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 8 |
| Money back into Park | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 7 |
| Consult prior to events | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 |
| Price Should include LBB Staff | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Wants an Event | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| No Alcohol | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Restricted to Day Time Only | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Parking in the Park | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Annex 2

London Borough of Barnet

Hiring of Barnet Parks - Events Policy

1. Introduction

The London Borough of Barnet has successfully hosted events in its parks and open spaces for over 10 years, these events vary in size and duration from small community days such as School Sponsored Walks held in Sunny Hill Park which have around 50 attendees up to the East Barnet Festival held in Oak Hill Park which has up to 10,000 attendees.

This document sets out the policy in relation to the hiring of parks and open spaces for organised events. It is needed in order to promote a varied calendar of events that are held in the right locations, with the appropriate frequency, and so that they are carried out safely. Any body or individual looking to make an Event Booking be it for Commercial, Charitable or Private use must adhere to the requirements of this policy and its supporting documents.

This Policy does not apply to Sporting Activities (e.g. Football/Rugby Matches, Running Clubs and Fitness Classes/Programmes etc) these should be organised through the Councils Sports Lettings Team 020 8359 7828.

2. Event Classification

The London Borough of Barnet defines an Event in one of its parks as a pre-organised activity within a designated area that has with a controlled attendance. There are a number of different types of events all these events are charged in accordance with the pricing structure.

Commercial event: Any event not organised by the community or not for profit making organisations for an audience/attendees; a maximum number is identified. Such events include:

- ❖ Fun fairs and circuses
- ❖ Festivals
- ❖ Concerts
- ❖ Markets
- ❖ Corporate events

Charitable and Community events:

Charitable events are organised by a charitable organisation or not for profit organisation who can demonstrate the charitable or not for profit nature of the event. Events run by a commercial company for charitable fund raising would normally fall into this category e.g. fun run.

Community events are small scale event organised by a community or voluntary group for the benefit of the local community and/or the parks and open spaces that does not exceed one day in duration. Such events include:

- ❖ Community days
- ❖ Fetes

❖ Picnics

Private events: An event such as a wedding or private party. Appendix A – 1.0 sets out the restrictions that are applied to each park for Private Events. The following parks have been identified as pilot sites for private events. Should there be demand for additional sites then further consultation will be completed.

- Hendon Park (NW4)
- Scratchwood (NW7)
- Edwarebury Park (HA8)
- Princes Park (NW11)

3. Frequency and Maximum Number of Events

It is expected that the majority of events will be within the period 1st April to 30th September. This will vary depending upon seasonal difficulties with ground and weather conditions.

In order to control the maximum number of events held in each park in a 12 month period each event is allocated a number of event points depending on its size as detailed below;

| Events | Pts |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Fun Fairs (up to 12 rides) | 3 |
| 1-500 persons | 1 |
| 501-1,000 persons | 2 |
| 1,001-2,500 persons | 3 |
| 2,501-5,000 persons | 4 |
| 5,000 + persons | 5 |

Each park has a maximum number of points per year as detailed in (Appendix A – 2.0) with the exception that there will be no more than three Fun Fairs in each park per year.

4. Consultation

Once the event has been confirmed and the relevant forms and payments have been received the event will be published on the Council's web page in order to ensure residents are made aware of any activities that are happening in their area.

5. Pricing

The charges for events are reviewed annually and published in the Environment and Operations Fees and Charges schedule.

There will be a set fee calculated on the basis of space required and the length of time of the event.

A 90% discount will be applied to the commercial rate for community events and a 75% discount will be applied to the commercial rate for charitable events.

6. Event Conditions

Terms and conditions of hire are detailed in the Terms and Conditions document alongside the event booking document, they will form the contract of hire. In addition to the terms and conditions of hire the following also applies.

Application notification requirements:

Once the event has had agreement in principle by the Greenspaces service the event documents including insurance, the required fee, relevant Health and Safety forms (Risk Assessments, Method Statements, Travel Plans etc) included in the events application pack need to be registered. The Greenspaces team will provide details of timescales. If the application pack is not completed correctly including the supporting documents (Insurance, Risk Assessments etc) then the event confirmation will be delayed as the Council must be satisfied that any event taking place will be safe and well managed.

Deposit

A separate deposit cheque or cheques will be requested in advance of the Event. The deposit will be held to cover any damage or loss or as part payment of any necessary making good. The Hirer will be liable for the full costs of any such damage or loss should this exceed the deposit.

Pre and post inspection

A member of the Greenspaces team will inspect the event site before an event to ensure it is still suitable and safe for the event a second inspection is completed after the event to ensure any damage is recorded. The organiser should be present so that any issues or damage that is present can be properly documented by both parties.

Licences

A public entertainment licence or a temporary events notice may be needed if the event consists of music, dancing, singing or similar. Please contact the Licensing Department on 020 8359 7471. A fee may be charged for a licence.

Vehicles in the Park

Vehicles will not be permitted within the parks or open spaces unless agreed with the Council prior to the event as set out in the Event Terms and Conditions.

7. Policy Review

The Greenspaces Events Policy will be reviewed every two years. The fees and charges will be reviewed and updated annually within the Environment Planning & Regeneration Fees and Charges Report.

Appendix A

Event Guidelines

1.0 – Private Event Restrictions

Following table sets out the restrictions that apply to each park for Private Events. The restrictions are set by the parks location, surroundings and residents concerns;

| Restrictions for Private Events | Hendon Park (NW4) | Scratchwood (NW7) | Edgwarebury Park (HA8) | Princes Park (NW11) |
|--|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Maximum Attendance | 500 Persons | 1,000 Persons | 500 Persons | 100 Persons |
| Hire Time | Unrestricted up until 11.00pm | Unrestricted | Unrestricted up until 11.00pm | Unrestricted up until 11.00pm |
| Maximum Hire Length (including set up and take down) | Max 12 hours | Unrestricted | Max 12 hours | Max 12 hours |

2.0 - Event Points Allocation

The table below sets out the total number of Event Points allocated to each park and the types of events that can be held in each park;

| Park | Location | Allocated Points | Event Types | | | | Private Events |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| | | | Fun Fairs | Small Events (Up to 500 Persons) | Medium Events (Up to 1,000 Persons) | Large Events/ Festivals (1,000+ Persons) | |
| Barnet Hill OS | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Barnet P.F | EN5 | 23 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Basing Hill Park | NW2 | 10 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Belmont Open Space | EN4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Bethune Recreation Ground | N11N20 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Bigwood | NW11 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Bittacy Hill Park | NW7 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Bounds Green/Fairview OS | N11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Boysland OS | HA8 | 15 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Brent Park | NW4 | 5 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Brook Farm/Wyatts Farm | N20 | 25 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Brookside Walk | NW11 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Brunswick Crescent Playground | N11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Brunswick Park / Waterfall Walk | N11 | 18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Central Square | NW11 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Charter Green | N3 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Cherry Tree Wood | N2 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Chiddingfold | N12 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Childs Hill Park | NW2 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Clarefield Park | NW2 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |

| Park | Location | Allocated Points | Event Types | | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| | | | Fun Fairs | Small Events (Up to 500 Persons) | Medium Events (Up to 1,000 Persons) | Large Events/ Festivals (1,000+ Persons) | Private Events |
| Claremont Road OS | NW2 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Clitterhouse PF | NW2 | 18 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Colindale Park | NW9 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Coppetts Wood | N10N11 N12 | 3 | | ✓ | | | |
| Copthall P.F | NW4NW 7 | 20 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Court Way OS | NW9 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Cranbrook Road OS | EN4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Cromer Road OS | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Dame Alice Owens Grounds | N20 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Deansbrook Rec | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Edgwarebury Park | HA8 | 18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Friary Park | N12 | 18 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Friern Bridge Open Space | N11 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Friern Park | N12 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Grange Playing Fields | EN4 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Greenhill Gardens | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Hadley Common (Green) | EN5 | 15 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Hadley Ridge | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Halliwick Rec. Ground | N10 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Hampstead Heath extension | NW11 | 20 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Harcourt Avenue OS | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Hendon Park | NW4 | 18 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Highlands Gardens | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Holland Close OS | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Hollickwood Park | N10 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Jubilee Gardens | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Kennard Road OS | N11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| King George V P.F | EN5 | 20 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| King Georges Field | EN5 | 20 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Lawrence Green | NW7 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Lincoln Avenue OS | N14 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Littlewood | NW11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Ludgrove P.F | EN5 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Lyndhurst Park | HA8 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Lyonsdown Rd OS | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |

| Park | Location | Allocated Points | Event Types | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| | | | Fun Fairs | Small Events (Up to 500 Persons) | Medium Events (Up to 1,000 Persons) | Large Events/Festivals (1,000+ Persons) | Private Events |
| Lyttelton P.F | N2 | 15 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Malcolm Park | NW4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Mansfield Ave / Vernan Crescent OS | EN4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Marsh Close / Marsh Lane OS | NW7 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Meadway Gate OS | NW11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Meadway Open Space | EN5 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Mill Hill Park | NW7 | 23 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Moat Mount OS | EN5 | 18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Montrose P.F | HA8 | 18 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Mortimer Close OS | NW2 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Mount Grove OS | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Mount Road OS | NW4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| New Southgate Rec | N11 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Oak Hill Park | EN4 | 25 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Oak Lane OS | N2 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Oakdene Park | N3 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Oakleigh Park Ave OS | N20 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Oakleigh Road North OS | N20 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Oakleigh Road South OS | N11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Oakway OS | N14 | 20 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Old Courthouse Rec Ground | EN5 | 15 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Ossulton Way OS | N2 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Pavilion Way OS | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Penhurst Gardens OS | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Percy Road OS | N12 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Princes Park | NW11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Quinta OS | EN5 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Raleigh Drive OS | N20 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Ravenscroft Gardens | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Riverside Walk N&S | N12 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Riverside Walk/Ducks Island | EN5 | 13 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Rushdene/Gallants Farm OS | EN4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Rushgrove Park | NW9 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Sanders Lane OS | NW7 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Scratchwood OS | NW7 | 20 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |

| Park | Location | Allocated Points | Event Types | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------------|-------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|----------------|
| | | | Fun Fairs | Small Events (Up to 500 Persons) | Medium Events (Up to 1,000 Persons) | Large Events/ Festivals (1,000+ Persons) | Private Events |
| Shaftesbury Ave OS | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Silkstream Park | HA8 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Simmonds Mead | NW7 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| St Mary's Church Green | EN4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Stanhope Road | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Stonegrove Park | HA8 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Stoneyfields Park | HA8 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Sturgess Avenue OS | NW4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Sturgess Park | NW4 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Sunny Hill Park | NW4 | 20 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Swan Lane OS | N12 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| The Meads OS | HA8 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| The Mill Field | NW7 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Thornfield Avenue OS | NW7 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Tudor Sports Ground | EN5 | 15 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Victoria Park | N3 | 15 | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Victoria Rec Ground | EN4 | 20 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Vivian Way OS | N2 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Warnham Road OS | N12 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Warrens Shawe Lane OS | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Watling Park / Cressingham Road | HA8 | 18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| West Hendon P.F | NW9 | 25 | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| West Way OS | HA8 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Westcroft Close OS | NW2 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Whetstone Strays | N20 | 18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Whitings Hill OS / Community Forest | EN5 | 18 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Willifield Green | NW11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Willifield Way OS | NW11 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Windsor OS | N3 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Woodcroft Park | HA8 | 10 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Woodfield Park | NW9 | 20 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Woodhouse OS | N12 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| Woodside Park | N12 | 5 | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| York Park | NW9 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |
| York Road OS | EN5 | 5 | | ✓ | | | |

Points are calculated using the following formula; (Park Size Allocation)* + (5pts for an Existing Car Park) + (5pts for a dedicated Event Space [e.g. Amphitheatre]) – (5pts if the Park is classed as a Natural Greenspace) – (10pts if the Park is classed as a Local Nature Reserve) – (5pts if classed for Small Events Only) = Total Event Points

| Size of Park in Hectares | Allocated Points |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| 20+ | 20 |
| 10-20 | 18 |
| 5-9 | 15 |
| 0-4 | 10 |

*

Annex 3

E&O Equalities Impact Assessment

Project/Policy/Service/ Title: Hiring of Barnet Parks – Events Policy

Brief Description: Policy relating to the hiring of parks and open spaces for organised events. It is needed in order to promote a varied calendar of events that are held in the right locations, with the appropriate frequency, and so that they are carried out safely. Any body or individual looking to make an Event Booking be it for Commercial, Charitable or Private use must adhere to the requirements of this policy and its supporting documents.

January 2012

1. E&O Equalities Impact Assessment Evidence

| | EIA question | EIA Narrative | Sources of Evidence (where relevant or available) |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1a | What is the purpose and objectives of the proposed project, service change or new policy? | The purpose of this policy is to enable the Council to give those who wish to have the opportunity to hire the Council's parks for events. This will meet the needs of the borough's diverse communities particularly those who require additional space to celebrate family, community or cultural events. It is expected that this policy will expand the use of parks and that this will in turn make them more welcoming to the wider community. | |
| 1b | What data is available on customers/service users? | No specific user group has been identified, as this policy would make the hiring of the borough's parks available to anyone, resident and non-resident alike. | No relevant data available, as the specific users are as yet unknown |
| 1c | i) Will the project, service change or new policy have any impact on each of the equalities groups? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Male & female • People of different ages • People with different ethnic backgrounds • People with different sexual orientations • People with disabilities • People with different religious beliefs | <p>i) The ability to hire one of the boroughs parks would be the same for everyone who applies to do so, and would therefore cause no disparity or have an adverse impact on any of the protected groups as defined by the Equality Act 2010. The proposed hiring fees if agreed will apply uniformly to all users.</p> <p>The Hiring of Barnet Parks Events Policy outlines that a particular space within each park will be identified and only this area will be available to hire. It will be a requirement that this space for hire does not prevent access to the park, taking into account access requirements of people with a disability or mobility impairments. The hiring of a park for an event would not impinge on the existing access availability of parks.</p> <p>Careful consideration has also been given to the feedback from a public consultation on the proposals. The top 10 areas of concern raised by residents on environmental, security, traffic and noise pollution matters apply universally to all residents, users and members of the community. In addition, some respondents raised questions about child safety arising from concerns that the policy will generate more traffic around the specific park events. All these concerns will be mitigated through the use of restrictions to hiring of parks policies and conditions applied, which could include the removal of vehicular access for certain event categories.</p> | <p>Hiring of Barnet parks – Draft Events Policy</p> <p>Analysis of consultation responses (1000+) gathered between 4 November 2011 and 16 January 2012</p> |

| | | | |
|------------------|---|---|--|
| | <p>ii) Has any adverse impact or potential discrimination been identified for any group/s?</p> | <p>If implemented, a review of the Hiring of Barnet Parks Events Policy will consider and analyse service take up, service outcomes, service quality, customer satisfaction and customer access to review whether the policy is having a differential impact on any protected group.</p> <p>ii) It is not considered that there would be any adverse impact or potential for discrimination for the reasons stated in 1c i) above. The policy takes into account each individual application, the type of event planned and its suitability for each particular venue. Where an application for an event is declined, reasons for the application refusal will be outlined to the applicant to ensure there is no discrimination in the application process.</p> | |
| <p>1d</p> | <p>Will the project, service change or new policy have any impact on any <u>other groups</u> not listed above?</p> | <p>The proposed policy could impact on people with lower incomes, however, to mitigate against this the policy states:</p> <p><i>“A discount may be applied to the daily rate for Charitable/Community events at the discretion of the Director for Environment and Operations.”</i></p> <p>3.1 <i>Other user groups which could potentially be affected by this policy are other park users and local residents. The impact on other park users would be minimal as the detailed policy around hiring of parks outlines that a particular space will be available to hire within each park. While events are underway in a park, the rest of the park will remain available and other park users will not be barred from using the parks while events are underway.</i></p> <p>3.2 <i>The impact on local residents would also be minimal, as the policy also takes into account on an individual application basis the type of event planned and its suitability for each particular venue.</i></p> <p>Once the event has been confirmed and the relevant forms and payments have been received the event will be published on the Council’s web page in order to ensure residents are made aware of any activities that are happening in their area.</p> <p>All of the above being the case, it should be considered that these potential impacts have been mitigated.</p> | <p>Hiring of Barnet parks – Draft Events Policy</p> <p>Analysis of consultation responses (1000+) gathered between 4 November 2011 and 16 January 2012</p> |

| | | | |
|----|--|---|--|
| 1e | <p>Does the project, service change or new policy enhance Barnet's reputation as a good place to live and work?</p> | <p>The proposed policy has the potential to enhance Barnet's reputation as a good place to live and work as it would expand the use of parks and produce more income for the borough. Also, by allowing the hiring of the borough's parks it ensures that the parks are well used.</p> <p>Events are widely recognised as being a mechanism for bringing communities together including parents, carers and children. The ability for residents and non-residents to hire parks for a diverse range of events provides additional space for people to get together in the borough. The holding of a diverse range of commercial, private and charity and community events will contribute to Barnet as a lively and vibrant place to live, work and visit, contributing to community cohesion within the borough.</p> | |
| 1f | <p>Does the project, service change or new policy appear to favour or have benefits exclusively for one section of the community?</p> | <p>It is not considered that any one section of the community will benefit exclusively from the new policy.</p> | |
| 1g | <p>Have any negative impacts been identified which <u>can not</u> be removed or reduced?</p> <p>Some times a negative impact can not be removed or reduced. e.g. if the resultant action would cause greater negative effects or can not be justified on other grounds.</p> | <p>The analysis concludes that there is no potential negative impact on any of the protected groups,</p> | |

2. Action Plan

| | Identified issue requiring action to remove or mitigate effect | Key action required | Progress update |
|----|--|---|-----------------|
| 1. | The potential impact on those with lower incomes, other park users and local residents | <p>The new policy could impact on people with lower incomes, however the policy specifies:</p> <p><i>“A discount may be applied to the daily rate for Charitable/Community events at the discretion of the Director for Environment and Operations.”</i></p> <p>3.3 Other user groups which could potentially be affected by this policy are other park users and local residents. The impact on other park users would be minimal as the detailed policy around hiring of parks outlines that a particular space available to hire within each park has been identified. While events are underway in a park, the rest of the park will remain available and other park users will not be barred from using the parks while events are underway.</p> <p>3.4 The impact on local residents would also be minimal, as policy also takes into account on an individual application basis the type of event planned and its suitability for each particular venue.</p> <p>Once the event has been confirmed and the relevant forms and payments have been received the event will be published on the Council’s web page in order to ensure residents are made aware of any activities that are happening in their area.</p> <p>All of the above being the case, it should be considered that these potential impacts have been mitigated.</p> | Not applicable |
| 2 | The top 10 areas of concern raised by respondents to consultation. | Once all the consultation responses have been analysed the Council will look at all the areas of concern and consider each park on an individual basis taking into account all the concerns raised and where possible look to mitigate through the use of restrictions. | |

 AGENDA ITEM 11

| | |
|--|---|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 July 2012 |
| Subject | Re-shaping Day opportunities for Older People in Barnet: Results on Consultation and Recommendations for a future service. |
| Report of Summary | Cabinet Member for Adults Cabinet is asked to note the outcomes of the public consultation on day opportunities for older people; agree the Older Adults Day Opportunities Model set out in Appendix 2; agree to add £150,000 to the older adults prevention funding and note that the implementation programme will be set out in a report to Cabinet Resources Committee no later than 30 September 2012. |
| Officer Contributors | Kate Kennally, Director of Adult Social Care and Health |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | N/A |
| Function of | Executive |
| Enclosures | Appendix 1 Summary of Equality Assessment Appendix 2 Older Adults Day Opportunities Model Appendix 3 Results of consultation |
| Contact for Further Information: | Caroline Chant, Joint Commissioner Older People and Physical Sensory Impairment Adult Social Care and Health/North Central London NHS tel 07931 777298 |
| Background papers | Consultation documents Full Equality Impact Assessment |

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 Consider the outcomes of the public consultation on day services for older people including the consultation carried out by Age UK.**
- 1.2 Agree the Older Adults Day Opportunities Model for Older Adults Day Services set out in Appendix 2.**
- 1.3 Instruct the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services to develop in partnership with local providers of Older Adults services an implementation plan for the Older Adults Day Opportunities Strategy for consideration by Cabinet Resources Committee.**
- 1.4 Agree to add £150,000 to the older adults' prevention funding to support the neighbourhood model.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet Resources Committee, 22 July 2008 (decision item 11) approved changes to voluntary sector commissioning arrangements.
- 2.2 Cabinet Resources Committee, 8 December 2009 (decision item 7) approved the strategic document 'Looking after Yourself – a prevention framework for Barnet' as the basis for the commissioning of preventative services by Adult Social Care and Health.
- 2.3 Council, 6 March 2011 agreed the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2012/13 to 2014/15 which included Third Sector Delivering efficiencies and reducing costs through the voluntary sector working together of £550,000.
- 2.4 Cabinet Resources Committee, 13 January 2011 (decision item 11) – approved a waiver of paragraph 5.6.2 of the Contract Procedure Rules to allow entry into interim funding arrangements for prevention services commissioned by the Council's Adult Social Care and Health subject to a maximum duration of two years.
- 2.5 Cabinet Resources Committee, 28 July 2011 (decision item 10) approved the council entering into a two-year Section 75 National Health Service Act 2006 pooled funding agreement with NHS Barnet with the council acting as lead commissioner.
- 2.6 Cabinet Resources Committee, 24 May 2011 (decision item 6) - approved the Estates Strategy 2011-2015 and corresponding action plan. This includes, among other targets, to complete a public sector /community assets plan in the Borough and develop the longer term

strategy with action plan to co-locate and manage community assets more effectively with our partners.

- 2.7 Health and Well-Being Board, 20 July 2011 (decision item 6(1)) agreed to engage with the 'Ageing Well' Place based programme and in September 2011 agreed to ensure the best fit between resources and health and care needs and approve a fresh commissioning offer for voluntary sector services for older people.
- 2.8 Health and Well-Being Board, 22 September 2011 (decision item 12) Noted progress on Ageing Well Programme

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment for Barnet has identified that the population of people aged 65 and over is set to increase by 21% over the next 10 years, and for the 90 plus age group to increase by 55%. At the same time resources to the Council to meet the needs of Barnet's residents are set to decrease in line with the Government's Comprehensive Spending Review.
- 3.2 Barnet's draft Health and Well Being Strategy (HWBS) has two overarching aims: 'Keeping Well' a strong belief in 'prevention is better than cure' and 'Keeping Independent'. Barnet's voluntary sector has a key role to play, building resilience in families, the community and neighbourhoods. Together with the Ageing Well programme, the proposed new model for older adults' day services will improve access to information and advice on a range of health and well being services, assist development of mutual support between citizens, increase inclusion, and develop neighbourhood and community based support networks for older people.
- 3.3 The Council has identified the need to shift the balance of resources towards early intervention and prevention services and in respect of considering how best to meet the needs of Older People, the Council has established an Ageing Well Programme to look at how we can support older people in Barnet to lead full, active and independent lives as they age. The Ageing Well programme is being led by the Director for Public Health and is in line with the forthcoming Public Health responsibilities of the Council. From the 1st April 2013 the Council will be responsible for Public Health and therefore health checks. There will be an opportunity to provide an element of the proposed model, Later Life Planners, and health checks as a single service. We will work with Public Health to increase the number of health checks carried out in Barnet¹.

¹ Health checks include measurement of blood pressure, Body Mass Index, cholesterol and urinalysis.

- 3.4 The Older Adults Day Opportunities model recognises that the more traditional buildings based day services do have an important role in meeting the needs of older people who require the support from adult social services. However, the new model proposes that this is refocused to enable greater integration with the NHS to support delivery of services that meet both health and social care needs whilst supporting service users and their families to have greater choice and control through self-directed support.
- 3.5 Under the council's Emerging Core Strategy policy CS 10, the Council will work with our partners to ensure that community facilities including schools, libraries, leisure centres and pools, places of worship, community meeting places and facilities for younger and older people, are provided for Barnet's communities and in particular support the enhancement and inclusive design of community facilities ensuring their efficient use, and the provision of multi-purpose community hubs that can provide a range of services to the community at a single accessible location

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 The current provision of voluntary sector support for Older People and the range of Older Adults day care providers in the Borough is well established. Redesigned services will require new contracts to be let which risks the loss or disruption to these established services.
- 4.2 However, failing to re-shape services poses risks to the Council in respect of not developing new services to support increasing numbers of older people and reduce their need for long term care. The new model will focus on reaching greater numbers of older people through enhanced cultural and geographical awareness expressed through the concept of neighbourhoods as an alternative to large building based services, ensuring a more effective outreach to older people.
- 4.3 The new day services model is intended to manage risks resulting from a required reduction in the budget for voluntary sector services to deliver medium term financial savings. This must be achieved alongside an increasing prevalence of long term conditions and disability, and particularly in dementia, created by the demographic change within the borough.
- 4.4 There is a risk of cost escalation or loss of capacity in day services if the predominantly volunteer workforce cannot be sustained through any change. Extensive engagement with the providers directly and facilitated by CommUNITY Barnet has been undertaken to help mitigate these risks. Through new contracts, funding will shift to investment in outcomes for older people creating sustainable local services and attraction of self funders and new volunteers.

- 4.5 During the period July to September 2012, a market testing exercise of the new specification for older adults' day services model will be conducted prior to commencement of procurement. A full range of organisations from within the borough and nationally will be engaged with to inform options and a robust case for procurement which, will be presented to Cabinet Resources Committee for decision.
- 4.6 Engagement and consultation with providers and users will continue through the transition period. , Adult Social Care will develop a sustainable implementation plan by working closely with providers. This will also ensure that the most complex needs are met sensitively and people are safeguarded through change. In response to the consultation, older adults providers asked the Council to develop it's implementation plan through the Older Adults network hosted by CommUNITY Barnet. This will be taken forward as part of the implementation of this older adults day opportunities strategy.
- 4.7 In line with the Council's community care responsibilities, any changes to how individual eligible care needs are to be met will be determined as a result of an individual assessment of need and care planning. Any changes to how day services are provided for people with eligible community care needs will need to be undertaken within this context.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 The public sector equality duty in the Equality Act came into force on 5 April 2011. Pursuant to section 149 of the Act, the Council has a public sector obligation to have due regard to eliminating unlawful discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations in the contexts of age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief and sexual orientation.
- 5.2 The proposals are intended to redress the inequality of current distribution whereby the current day centres benefit only small numbers of older people. It is anticipated that the new service model will reach greater numbers of older people. The consultation document maps existing day services against service users and the ward 65+ population. The map demonstrates that the location of day services cannot hope to cover all neighbourhoods in the borough and concludes that many older people are not able to access day support. With a larger older population, the proposal for neighbourhood services means that there will be places in every neighbourhood where services will be run and no-one will be excluded because they do not live near a day centre.
- 5.3 During March through to June 2012, the Council has undertaken an extensive consultation on its proposals to reshape Older Adults Day Opportunities with the Public, existing providers, service users and carers. The outcomes from this together with data collected on older

people living in Barnet compared to overall London statistics, have been used to develop an Equality Assessment (EQA) from which to assess the impact of implementing the new Older Adults Day Services model.

- 5.4 The Equality Assessment shows the overall impact of the Council's proposals on the different equality strands; identifies potentially negative impacts and identifies ways to promote equality of opportunity and ensure greater access to services. The proposed service model will necessitate the withdrawal of funding from existing voluntary sector day provisions, which has been assessed as having a negative impact on the current long-term users of services. However this would be mitigated by the specific models proposed as an alternative method of providing day services. A summary of the EQA is set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.5 The EQA has been undertaken with the primary consideration of the council's duty to have 'due regard' to the equalities duties including the need to promote equality. The decision has balanced the potential negative impact on current service users of day centres through the withdrawal of funding for these services with the proposed positive impact on all older people in introducing the Later Life Planners; Neighbourhood Services; Practical Support and Care & Activity models. A re-distribution of resources across older people in Barnet could improve care and support provisions across all equality strands set out in Appendix 1.
- 5.6 Analysis of the consultation results shows an overwhelming agreement for the council's proposals as regards the future of day opportunities for older people. From the comments received as well as the meetings attended, respondents have in general stated that the services to be offered will be good for older people. The details of these are set out in Appendix 3. However, many of the users, volunteers, staff and management of existing organisations made it clear that they would also like the funding for their current organisation to continue.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance and Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

Finance

- 6.1 Adult Social Care and Health currently fund day opportunities for Older Adults from a range of budgets, based on historical funding streams and levels of user need. The total spend on day care in 2011/12 for Older Adults was £2,284,631 with 65% funded from Older Adults Purchasing Budgets and 35% funded from separate voluntary sector funding budget.

- 6.2 The Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and 2012/13 set out a reduction in funding in voluntary sector funding budgets of 33%. Voluntary sector funding for Older Adults preventative services constitutes approximately 35% of the overall prevention budget and the full year effect of the 2012/13 budget reduction for older adults voluntary sector funding is £142,739, which represents a 23% reduction. The table below shows the services provided for Older Adults from this budget and the historical resource allocation for 2010/11.

| Organisation | Service | Approx no of service users | LBB Baseline funding 2010/11 £ |
|--|---|---|---|
| Age UK | 2 day centres and various other activities - handyperson, etc | 650 | 376,849 (included some non-recurrent funding) |
| Alzheimers Society | Day centre plus related for people with dementia | 65 | 69,522 |
| Asra | Day centre for Asian Elders | 98 | 48,969 |
| BACA | Day centre for African-Caribbean | Not known | 61,568 |
| BAOPA | Asian Elders | 150 | 37,027 |
| Friend in Need | Day care, gardening etc | 91 | 188,222 |
| British Red Cross | Home from hospital | 700 | 43,650 |
| 11 other voluntary organisations see below | Various lunch clubs, good neighbourhood schemes etc | Difficult to enumerate – see note below | 88,674 |
| Total | | | 914,481 |

11 other voluntary organisations include; Jewish Care, Barnet Asian Older Women's association, Barnet Elderly Asian's group, Barnet RSVP, Chipping Barnet Day Centre, Colindale community club, Cultural and Recreational organisation for Tamil Elders, Good Neighbour scheme for Mill Hill and Burnt Oak, High Barnet Good Neighbour scheme, New Barnet Community Association, The Monday Club

- 6.3 A review of voluntary sector provision was conducted during 2010/11. This review found that services were not sufficiently aligned with commissioning priorities such as increased personalisation and greater outreach. For older adults these findings informed the development of the models that have formed the basis of this consultation.
- 6.4 The review also proposed consolidation of voluntary sector spend to increase value for money (taking account of quality, outcomes and cost) and deliver savings within the Medium Term Financial Strategy. The proposed reductions to voluntary sector funding were the subject

of specific consultation with organisations during December 2010 - January 2011, with the outcomes considered by Cabinet on 14 February 2011.

- 6.5 Although the majority of consultees disagreed with proposals to reduce the budget, the council concluded that the reduction was reasonable. Adult Social Services' reviews of the prevention strategy and current service provision offered clear evidence that better value could be realised from the council's expenditure. Details of the programme of re-commissioning that the Council intended to undertake were being developed in collaboration with the voluntary sector and the principles, objectives and methods were sufficiently clear for the council to be confident that the existing voluntary sector offer could be satisfactorily restructured within the reduced level of resources.
- 6.6 In addition, to the Council's budget for preventative services provided by the Voluntary sector, the resources available to support the new day opportunities model include £45,283 from NHS Barnet which has been transferred to the London Borough of Barnet by way of a section 75 agreement to support integrated commissioning of prevention services. This results in an available total voluntary sector Older Adults Day opportunities budget of £700,034.
- 6.7 The public consultation on day opportunities proposed that this budget of £700,000 should be allocated to the new model in the following ways:
- £150,000 Model 1 – Later Life Planners
 - £400,000 Model 2 – Neighbourhood Services
 - £150,000 Model 3 – Practical Support such as Home from Hospital, Care and Repair, and Handyperson
- 6.8 However taking account of the consultation findings, and the opportunity to align the provision of the 'later life planners' with the provision of health checks, this report recommends that the this part of the new service model is funded from the NHS monies transferred to the Council for Social Care and the ring-fenced Public Health monies that the Council will receive from 1 April 2013. This will allow the resource envelope for neighbourhood services to be increased to £550,000 providing a more sustainable financial envelope from which to develop a comprehensive range of neighbourhood based services to meet the needs of Barnet's diverse older adults' communities. We recognise that there will be some changes to service users during the period of change, and to mitigate this, we will ensure existing services are maintained whilst alternative provision is identified and the new model is implemented.
- 6.9 The proposed total resource envelope for implementing the new model is shown in the table below:

| Service | Prevention funding £ | Section 256 £ | Base budget £ | Total funding £ |
|--|----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Later Life Planners | 150,000 | | | 150,000 |
| Neighbourhood services | 400,000 | 150,000 | | 550,000 |
| Practical support | 150,000 | | | 150,000 |
| Care and activity | | | 1,400,000 | 1,400,000 |
| Extension of existing funding to allow phased implementation | | Up to 140,000 | | 140,000 |
| Total resource | | | | 2,390,000 |

Procurement

- 6.10 A limited engagement of the market has taken place so far and the proposed service models will be based on a fuller market test outcome as well as working closely with existing providers through the Older Adults Network. A phased implementation plan bringing together the outcomes of dialogue with local providers and the wider market will be presented to Cabinet Resources Committee in September 2012. This approach has been developed based on looking at evidence from other local authorities who have sought to change their older adults day care.
- 6.11 Evidence obtained from 9 London Boroughs, 2 rural authorities and 2 other urban authorities shows:
- All appear to have reduced their levels of funding (Southwark has moved all day opportunities funding to personal budgets covering critical, substantial and moderate needs).
 - Most have continued to rely on either pre-existing in-house or local voluntary organisations to provide more limited services.
 - Where authorities have put day opportunities out to tender, they have given the contracts to voluntary organisations already established in their areas – e.g. Age UK, British Red Cross.
 - The use of traditional day centres has been reduced in favour of befriending and neighbourhood schemes – with heavy use of volunteers.
- 6.12 As part of a market testing exercise to determine whether local and other organisations would be interested in tendering for the services, around 100 organisations were contacted and invited to attend a market event. 22 responded that they were interested in principle; these included 6 of our existing providers, 8 Registered Social Landlords (RSLs), the remainder were various other types of service providers.

- 6.13 The Council's contract for the provision of older adults day services provided by the Fremantle Trust is due to run until the 31st of March 2016, although negotiations are currently underway to look at how these services should be provided in line with this new Older Adults Day Service model. Current discussions with The Fremantle Trust will be shaped by the outcome of this consultation. Few of The Fremantle Trust day centres in Barnet are operating to capacity, although demand for the places for people with cognitive impairment or dementia is more constant. This means that the unit cost is relatively high because of reduced attendance. It is anticipated that through negotiation the Council will agree a new day services specification with The Fremantle Trust to respond to the feedback from existing service users and carers arising from the consultation and to reshape these services to be better able to meet the needs of Barnet's residents. The outcome of these negotiations will be included in the future report to Cabinet Resources Committee on the implementation and procurement approach for the Older Adults Day Opportunities Model.

Property

- 6.14 The implementation of the Day Opportunities Model needs to take account of the Council's Estates strategy, which was agreed by Cabinet Resources Committee 24 May 2011. The development of a community property strategy will include the potential to consider a return on social value through the judicious use of assets to offset rising care costs. The Council has also carried out analysis of current day care usage and mapped other services and stand alone day centres, some of which have evolved to meet local need including some which have been historically grant funded by the council and a smaller number which are funded by the NHS.
- 6.15 The reliance on Council funding and on large buildings places a risk on long-term sustainability. The implementation of this new model for day opportunities for older people needs to maximise the utilisation of Council assets for community based activities in order to help mitigate this risk and to support voluntary sector and community organisations who will deliver support and services as a part of the neighbourhood model to be sustainable for the longer term. Work is being undertaken across Adult Social Care and Health with property services to map out the implications of this new Older Adults Day Opportunities Model for inclusion in the subsequent report to Cabinet Resources Committee on the implementation of this new model.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 The services to be commissioned fall under Annex B of Schedule 3 to The Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (as amended). This means that the procurement will not be subject to the full EU tendering rules.

- 7.2 The Council has carried out Equality Impact Assessments on the proposals and in doing so has had due regard to the goals set out in the equalities/ discrimination legislation as set out above.
- 7.3 Equality Impact Assessments have been completed for each of the proposals and developed in the light of responses from the public, voluntary sector and service users of day centres and this demonstrates a commitment to ensure that due regard is given to effect of proposals on all groups with protected characteristics as set out in the EIA. The feedback from any consultation will inform the areas of focus of future discussion with service providers and users.
- 7.4 The council is required to have due regard to goals set out in the Equality Act 2010, particularly s149 which sets out the public sector equality duty which came into force on 5 April 2011.

The general duty on public bodies states:-

A public authority must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- a. eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - b. advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
 - c. foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.
- (1) Having due regard to the need to advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:
- a. remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
 - b. take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
 - c. encourage persons who share a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

The steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities.

Having due regard to the need to foster good relations between Persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to:-

- a. tackle prejudice, and
- b. promote understanding.

Compliance with the duties in this section may involve treating some persons more favourably than others; but that is not to be taken as permitting conduct that would otherwise be prohibited by or under this Act.

(6) The relevant protected characteristics are—

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race;
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

7.7 It also covers marriage and civil partnership with regard to eliminating discrimination.

7.8 'Due regard' as required by legislation is more than 'regard'; it requires more than simply giving consideration to the issue of disability, race or gender, the law requires a rigorous and open minded approach.

7.9 There are also statutory Codes of Practice issued by the Equalities and Human Rights Commission

7.10 The Equality and Human Rights Commission guidance has stated that the essence of the new duty remains the same, to have due regard to achieve the three general duty aims. It also states, amongst other matters that public authorities should:

- have an adequate evidence base for decision making and to consider what engagement needs to be undertaken with people who have an interest in tackling discrimination, advancing equality and fostering good relations
- analyse the effect of a policy or practice on equality

7.11 The Council is following the Codes and taking the guidance into consideration in formulating its proposals for consideration by Cabinet.

7.12 The Council will keep under review whether in developing the new services these statutory duties are relevant.

7.13 As a matter of public law the Council is required to put out to consultation, the proposals for changes to the groups affected by those changes. The consultation must be undertaken at a time whilst the proposals are in a formative stage and give sufficient reasons for the

proposals and sufficient time for consultation to allow those consulted to be able to give a considered response. The results of that consultation must be taken into account when the final decision is made. The council has been in compliance with this requirement and has worked through the proposals with a group of providers and users.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS

8.1 Part 3 of The Council's Constitution, sets out the executive function.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Context for Change

9.1 This consultation has been about how day opportunities for older people should be provided in the future. The term day opportunities includes the range of activities and support commissioned for older people by the council through day centres and associated services such as lunch clubs, provided by voluntary organisations in Barnet.

9.2 There are a number of compelling reasons to change the models we have:

- Numbers of older people are set to increase significantly; the population of people aged 65 and over is projected to increase by 21% over the next 10 years, and for the 90 plus age group to increase by 55%.
- At the same time, there is severe pressure on public sector funding; the Medium Term Financial Strategy for 2011/12 and 2012/13 set out a reduction in funding for voluntary sector funding budgets of 33%.
- Expectations of older people are changing; previous consultations on day opportunities have indicated that whilst day care is of significant value to carers and elders from minority groups, other older people have reservations about the usefulness of current models of day care. For example, over a number of years few of the Fremantle day care places have been operating to capacity, although demand for the dementia service is more consistent.
- Current services are only available for a small minority of older people in Barnet, constrained to geographical areas.
- Other issues that impact on the provision of day opportunities include: personalisation and the growth of personal budgets; the proven value and effectiveness of the enablement approach; the need to work in a far more integrated way with health services; the councils commitment to the Ageing Well agenda which is initially focused on fostering 'neighbourhood spirit' and the concept of social capital (fostering self help and volunteering).

- 9.3 In July 2011, the Barnet Health and Well-Being Board agreed to the establishment of Barnet Ageing Well Programme supported by the Local Government Association and undertaken in conjunction with the Barnet Older People's Assembly (BOPA). Ageing Well embodies the following aims, which have been used to inform the development of the Older Adults Day Opportunities Model:
- It will focus on helping the community to set up self-sustaining initiatives that will reduce individual isolation, increase connectivity and open up opportunities for participation in healthy pastimes such as exercise initiatives
 - Improve the communication of information about services available including opportunities for leisure, learning and cultural activity.
 - Building peer support.
 - Reach isolated older people who may not have internet access.
 - Extend volunteering and intergenerational activities.
 - Optimise the shared use of venues and other facilities.
 - Identify how the council and other public services, and the private sector can respond better to the needs of older people.
- 9.4 As more complex needs are managed in the community it is acknowledged that hospital, residential and nursing care will continue to be an important component of the spectrum of care for elderly people who are very ill, frail and disabled. However, these interventions should be reserved only for those with complex needs or be time limited to minimise the risk of dependency and institutionalisation. It is vital both for managing future expectations of new generations of older people and for containing medium and long term demand pressures arising from demographic change, that admissions to long term care are deferred for as long as possible.
- 9.5 In 2006, the Wanless Report (and echoed in the Audit Commission report 'Under Pressure: Tackling the financial Challenge for Councils of an Ageing Population' February 2010) listed the main reasons that older people need social care services; poor inappropriate housing and environment; health, mobility and rehabilitation problems; lack or breakdown of informal care/stress on carers; social reasons such as isolation, fear of crime, abuse. The new model is designed to put in place a range of responses to help defer the need for care through developing information, advice and support to enable older people and their carers to stay as independent and as well as possible. We recognise that many of the services that are provided help address these issues, but we think from listening to older people through a range of fora including the Ageing Well Programme, Older Adult Partnership Board, Barnet Older Peoples Assembly and other meetings, that there are more effective ways that we can address social isolation. For example supporting intergenerational work linked to our children's centres. The Ageing Well programme will assist local communities to set up self sustaining initiatives using local volunteers,

to reinforce links with family, friends, groups and neighbours and create opportunities for older people to get together.

- 9.6 Older people in response to surveys and consultations consistently maintain an overwhelming interest in staying well, active and healthy for as long as possible with access to the right practical support at the right time being a specific concern as well a sense of belonging to a family or social grouping.
- 9.7 As a part of the ongoing transformation of health and social care in the borough the council therefore wishes to commission a sustainable day care model. The model should include better advice and information for older people and their carers, more effective targeting of prevention services including health checks and lifestyle planning, as well as flexible and responsive day care services to more effectively meet the health and well being needs of older people with complex needs. In addition, the new day care model must address the growing diversity within the population of Barnet and support all Older Adults to Age Well.

Development of proposed models

- 9.8 There has been ongoing engagement with providers at various fora, to review the operation and purpose of day services and to consider different models of day care. In March 2011 the Older Adults Partnership Board had a workshop to discuss the future of day opportunities and proposals for an initial model. A further workshop with voluntary sector providers, plus discussions at other fora and review of practice elsewhere helped to define the models proposed.
- 9.9 In developing the models, we also looked at good practice elsewhere and have included a summary of 2 schemes which we found inspiring. Many of our existing providers have innovative (non building based) services and we have also included a short description of RSVP.
- 9.10 In Brighton, voluntary organisations got together, backed by Council/NHS funding. They have saved money by sharing accommodation, staff and back office functions; they provide preventative services using a neighbourhood scheme in 9 city localities. Using 250 volunteers they currently offer befriending (plus signposting to other services) to older people to combat isolation and help users feel more connected to their local communities.
- 9.11 Southwark Circle is a membership organisation that provides help with practical tasks through local neighbourhood helpers, plus a social network of teaching, learning and sharing. Members buy tokens to 'buy' the practical help, which can include gardening to learning how to send a text message. There is a 'Member Calendar' that members can use to invite people to do things like go for a meal or visit a museum together. Members choose which events they would like to go to and

are sent all the information including cost and what the transport options might be.

9.12 RSVP is an organisation which enables people over the age of 55 to volunteer to help others and thereby feel valued and remain active in the local community; projects include telephone befriending, active volunteering for disabled people, befriending patients at Finchley Memorial Hospital, knitting for international donations. Up to 600 volunteers support about 1000 recipients.

9.13 The consultation document proposed 4 models:

- **Model 1 - Later Life Planners** to ensure improved availability of information and advice,
- **Model 2 – Neighbourhood model** to shift the balance of day opportunities provided by the voluntary sector from ongoing centre based services to neighbourhood services, aimed at promoting independence and self help across the whole of Barnet,
- **Model 3 - practical support** such as home from hospital support and handyperson services
- **Model 4 – Care and activity** to provide buildings based day care to the most vulnerable people, including those with dementia. However, the services will be re-modelled to offer service users more flexibility and choice.

9.14 The key principles which will underpin the new model for all older people day opportunities in Barnet are:

- Buildings based day opportunities will be targeted to support those with greatest need with information, advice and support maximising independence all.
- Public funding is used to facilitate and enable volunteer contributions and other community resources to meet the needs of Barnet's diverse residents and communities. This means that we will work in partnership with local providers, community groups and older people to implement this new model of service. Maximise resources to meet needs through reducing back office costs and duplication of service functions

10. CONSULTATION

10.1 The consultation document, together with a longer document giving background information on the proposals and a questionnaire were published on the council's website in February 2012. The initial closing date was 25 May 2012 but later extended to 15 June 2012 following a request by the Older Adults Partnership Board.

10.2 The Consultation Plan, as agreed by the Developing a Consumer Led Market Board (DaCLM), included the following process:

- Initial dispatch of around 1500 copies of the consultation document and questionnaire to contracted voluntary sector service providers; libraries; Greenwich Leisure and individuals as requested. A further 700 copies were printed and distributed to 90 Faith organisations in the borough as well as to those people requesting further copies;
- Email link to the council's consultation portal to the contracted voluntary sector providers; sheltered housing providers; North Central London NHS communications team and GPs as well as the Locality Groups. All were asked to distribute the consultation document and questionnaire (printed if required) to their users and make comments as organisations themselves;
- Emailed copies of the consultation document and later the easy read version sent to the council's Home & Community Support and Enablement providers and Public Health team, asking them to distribute consultation to clients and give assistance in completing these.
- Emailed copies to all Partnership Boards with an offer to present and discuss the proposals. There was also a presentation to Older Adults Partnership Board
- An easy-read version of the consultation document distributed to around 100 attendees of the Barnet Older People's Assembly meeting
- Printed copies of the easy-read version and questionnaires collected by the Care Services Delivery review teams to distribute and assist clients to complete the questionnaires, especially those not using any day services at the moment;
- Advocacy in Barnet were commissioned to assist people to complete questionnaires, utilising language skills as necessary.

10.3 A press release was issued at the beginning of the consultation and again later, advising people that the consultation had been extended.

10.4 In addition, around 24 meetings were organised or attended by officers with groups representing older people in the borough or those providing services and their users. A summary of this can be found below and in Appendix 3.

10.5 A general comment on the questionnaire was that it was too long and somewhat complicated. Providers and Advocacy in Barnet reported that it took a long time to complete. In order to alleviate concerns about this, the consultation period was extended by a further 3 weeks and

increased efforts made by officers to carry out face to face meetings and by Advocacy in Barnet to assist people to complete the questionnaire. The issue of questionnaires being easy to understand whilst adequately delivering the council's message is being addressed for future consultations.

- 10.6 A further 191 questionnaires were received from Age UK service users; but could not be included in the above numbers as they amended the prescribed format.

Postal Consultation Response Rates

- 10.7 The overall response rate of the postal questionnaire was 271 representing 12% of the numbers dispatched. This is lower than the expected rate of return of between 20 – 30% for a postal survey. A general comment was that people found the questionnaire too long and complicated and Providers and Advocacy in Barnet reported that it took a long time to complete. This issue is being addressed for future consultations. A further 191 questionnaires were received from Age UK service users; but could not be included in the above numbers as they amended the prescribed format. However, the results have been summarised at Appendix 3 and need to be considered as part of the consultation process.
- 10.8 Face to face discussions either at a meeting or with individuals yielded a better response, given the topic being discussed and the age group of the people being consulted.

Postal Consultation Results

- 10.9 An independent company SMSR was commissioned to analyse the data and report on the findings. Their report can be found in Appendix 3 and is summarised below:

| Summary of Consultation findings | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Proposal | Comments on the proposal | Negative Impact on an equalities group |
| Later Life Planners | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 84% in agreement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority felt no negative impact Concern for those with a low income (24%); a disability (16%) |
| Neighbourhood Services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 77% in agreement 51% gave postcode area as a definition. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority felt no negative impact Concern for people with disabilities (24%) and those with particular beliefs (22%). 53% of respondents said there is a need for separate provision for cultural needs, |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Practical Support - Care & Repair and Handyperson Home from Hospital | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97% in agreement with CRH • 96% in agreement with Home from Hospital | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 73% - no negative impact • 36% said costs must be affordable; • 22% stressed services must be appropriate to cultural backgrounds and beliefs. |
| Care & Activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 73% in agreement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority felt no negative impact • Concerns over people with particular beliefs (23%), people with a low income (23%) and people from ethnic minority backgrounds (24%). • 82% said that there is a need to educate people as to what services are available |
| Service prioritisation: | 1 st : Practical support (36%) 2 nd : Neighbourhood Services (30%) 3 rd : Care & Activity (26%) 4 th : Later Life Planners (8%) | |
| General questions | | |
| Separate services important for each of the groups listed? | Older people <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With dementia (81%) • With chronic illness / disabilities (71%) • From BME groups (60%) | |
| Ways that the council and service providers could improve day services for older people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fund existing voluntary services /charities (16%) • Provide and maintain funds (14%) • Maintain/increase amount of day care centres (14%) • Improve transport facilities for old people(13%) | |

Feedback from Consultation Meetings.

10.10 A summary of the notes from the meetings held are contained in Appendix 3 and full notes can be found in the Background papers. The main issues are highlighted below:

10.10.1 A total of 17 meetings were attended, commencing in March 2011.with organisations and Boards representing older people and Providers' and Users' Groups, The majority of earlier meetings were presentation of the council's proposals.

10.10.2 Meetings with individual organisations, their users and carers, totalling some 380 participants, were also held during this period. The

proposals were talked through and people urged to complete the questionnaire. Individual organisations included Barnet Alzheimers Society, Barnet Afro-Caribbean society, Fremantle Trust, Barnet Asian Older People's Association, sheltered housing scheme. Plus there was a meeting with volunteers who worked with older people, and a short presentation at the Barnet Older People's Assembly In summary:

- 10.10.3 There was strong support for specialist services for BME communities due to cultural, religious and language needs.
- 10.10.4 Meetings with Fremantle Day Centre users gave the clear message that participants wished to continue with the traditional day centre service that they currently enjoy. There was also great concern about the use of personal budgets to fund day support as this would not be enough to fund transport and personal care costs
- 10.10.5 Meeting with volunteers stated that the retention of staff and volunteers was vital as the proposals relied heavily on the use of volunteers and the value of local knowledge.
- 10.10.6 Meeting with users and carers of people with dementia / Alzheimers stated there was a firm belief that there was a need for a specialist service for people with dementia.
- 10.10.7 A meeting at a sheltered scheme showed that the majority did not use current day services but there was very little interest in the proposals as tenants see these being provided within their scheme already.
- 10.10.8 Some smaller organisations where funding from council was a minor element of the total, stated that they will continue with current services with alternative funding.

Proposed Revisions to the Models – following consultation

- 10.11 Given the feedback that the funding for neighbourhood services was not sufficient to support implementation this report recommends that this part of the new service model is funded from the NHS monies transferred to the Council for Social Care and the ring-fenced Public Health monies that the Council will receive from the 1st of April 2013. This will allow for the resource envelope for neighbourhood services to be increased to £550,000 providing a more sustainable financial envelope from which to develop a comprehensive range of neighbourhood based services to meet the needs of Barnet's diverse older adults communities.
- 10.12 It is proposed that a neighbourhood is based on postcode areas, with no more than 2 postcodes forming a neighbourhood. Barnet has 15

postcode areas, which would equate to 7/8 neighbourhood areas, hence an increase in resources described above to sustain this. Fully affordable and accessible premises to facilitate activities represent a challenge; the council is undertaking work with the council's Property Services to address this, together with a planned Ageing Well Project to ensure there are meeting places for groups in all parts of the borough.

- 10.13 Later Life Planners: help, advice, information and advocacy for people approaching retirement years offering a 'triage' system to other relevant services throughout the remainder of their life. This service is intended to interface and align with health checks for older people adding value to health checks and ensuring referrals to preventative services, minimising or delaying the need for them to access the more intensive or residential services.
- 10.14 A full review of the community dementia pathway is in progress with all stakeholders, which will be completed by autumn. Interim findings indicate a requirement for improved (more specialist) day services for people with dementia. A sustainable model is likely to be recommended which establishes a dementia 'hub' or centre of excellence; combining the memory assessment service with a prevention and early intervention service. It is recommended that funding for the Barnet Alzheimer's Society day service at Stepping Stones is 'ring fenced' and a decision on the future of the Alzheimer's contract is deferred until the Pathway Review had been concluded.
- 10.15 Any future provider will need to ensure that they have volunteers available with language skills and cultural knowledge for all the main minority groups in Barnet. The provider will be expected to work with existing black and minority ethnic providers and volunteers to facilitate this. There will be an emphasis on outreach work. It is acknowledged that there will need to be some ongoing group activities to meet cultural, language and religious needs. In addition, the future provider will need to make proposals regarding affordable transport options; sharing of resources, taxi sharing, use of volunteer drivers etc.
- 10.16 The feedback from the consultation received from existing service users and carers on the care and activity model will feed into the discussions with the Fremantle Trust and a new day services specification will be agreed to reshape these services.

Next steps

- 10.17 The results of the public consultation are based on 271 survey responses, plus a further 191 from Age UK Barnet, following their own questionnaire format. The results include responses from 19 of the organisations to which the consultation document was sent. It is important to emphasise that the Council has placed great importance

on the extensive engagement and consultation meetings with service users, older people and voluntary organisations.

- 10.18 The Council needs to balance the concerns of current day service users with the strategic, demographic and budgetary principles as set out in this report. The new model will focus on reaching greater numbers of older people through the neighbourhood model.
- 10.19 Implementation of the proposed service models will be based on a fuller market test outcome and a phased implementation, which will be presented to Cabinet Resources Committee in September 2012.
- 10.20 A specification will be prepared for the market testing exercise, which will inform a robust case for procurement. This will be presented to Cabinet Resources Committee for decision. The specification will be based on the following models which include revisions arising from the consultation process:
- The neighbourhood model, with revisions and with an increased resource envelope as described above.
 - Later life planners - offering a 'triage' system. This service will be aligned to health checks for older people and referrals to preventative services thereby minimising or delaying the need for people to access more intensive or residential services.
 - Practical support to include home from hospital and handyperson services.
- 10.21 The revised model is set out in Appendix 2
- 10.22 A new day services specification for the Fremantle Trust will be agreed to reshape Model 4 (care and activity) services.

11. List of background papers

- 11.1 Full Equality Assessment together with the Consultation Documents and notes of consultation meetings are available from Caroline Chant, Joint Commissioner, Older Adults and Physical and Sensory Impairment. Tel: 07931 777298

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| Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials) | JH /MC |
| Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials) | HP |

APPENDIX 1 – SUMMARY OF THE EQUALITY ASSESSMENT

1. Equalities Assessment

- 1.1 A full version of the Equalities Assessment can be found within the Background papers. This includes the dataset the assessments have been based on. The tables below set out a summary of the EQA.

| Later Life Planners - Overall positive impact | |
|---|--|
| Ethnicity | Specification for the proposed new services would stipulate culturally specific services delivered in a variety of languages from the outset. |
| Gender | More women are affected by health issues, they are more likely to query or seek out services that may assist them. |
| Age | Access to the service would be made simple and clear in order for older people that currently are not able or willing to look for this information, be able to do this in the future. |
| Disability | Older people with disabilities are more likely to be in need of information and advice on what is available for them and this service aims to particularly target those with disabilities. |
| Religion / belief | This service could be a platform for people to find out about hire of premises or equipment for religious gatherings and for these to be advertised to reach a wider community of people. |
| Sexual orientation | Information can be given individually and in confidence for any issue worrying an older person, particularly if this is in relation to their sexual orientation. |
| Low income | The service would be free at the point of contact although services people are referred to may be charged. |
| Consultation feedback to the question: 'Do you think that the proposal would have a negative impact on any of the following equality groups?' | A majority (ranging from 66% - 82% of respondents) thought that the Later Life Planners would not have a negative impact on any of the equality groups. |

| Neighbourhood Services – Overall positive impact | |
|--|--|
| Ethnicity | Localised volunteer teams would source clients from BME groups or those with particular language or cultural needs. |
| Gender | More women are affected by health issues and therefore, more likely recipients of services at a neighbourhood level. |
| Age | This model aims to target those older people feeling isolated and vulnerable, especially those not in receipt of services currently. |
| Disability | Apart from ensuring access to premises and services within the specification, there is a more positive obligation to consider whether disabled people should be treated more favourably under section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010. As the neighbourhood services will not only be geographically based but also organised according to interest, potential users with disabilities could be specifically targeted |

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| | and services geared toward their needs. |
| Religion / belief | The organisation of religious or cultural gatherings, particularly if this is required to alleviate isolation and promote social networks would be easier at a local level but also co-ordinated with other neighbourhoods for larger activities. |
| Sexual orientation | Any individual that feels isolated or vulnerable, this service can either put them in touch with existing groups or activities or set these up as required. |
| Low income | More locally based services would reduce travel costs. Also people could pay for services that interest them individually rather than a service a ready-made one on offer. |
| Consultation feedback to the question: 'Do you think that the proposal would have a negative impact on any of the following equality groups?' | A majority (ranging from 69% - 80%) thought that the Neighbourhood model would not have a negative impact on any of the equality groups. |

| | |
|---|--|
| Care & Repair & Handyperson – Overall positive impact | |
| Ethnicity | Any new service will need to take into account language barriers as well as cultural requirements when entering someone's home. This will be strictly specified within the contract. |
| Gender | Any new service will be encouraged to employ female operatives, not only for equality in employment but also to cater for those older women who are nervous about allowing men into their homes. |
| Age | As older people in particular are targeted by unscrupulous builders or workmen and this service would allow a safe and quality service to be provided to them. |
| Disability | This service is to give help to get adaptations such as rails or stairlifts in the home; help to apply for grants if the older person cannot afford adaptations and referrals to other agencies / services for people needing specialist assistance. |
| Religion / belief | As with ethnicity, the new contractors will have to take into account cultural requirements when entering someone's home and this will be stated within the contract and monitored. |
| Sexual orientation | Strict equalities conditions within the contract would monitor and deal with any issues reported by a user. |
| Low income | As is the case now, the contractor will be likely to make a small charge, for example, materials |
| Consultation feedback to the question: 'Do you think that the proposal would have a negative impact on any of the following equality groups?' | A majority (ranging from 68% - 85%) thought that the practical support services (Care and Repair and Handyperson; Home from hospital) models would not have a negative impact on any of the equality groups |

| | |
|---|---|
| Home from Hospital – Overall positive impact | |
| Ethnicity | Emotional and practical support, offered with any language or |

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| | cultural needs would make the user feel comfortable and safe to return home from hospital. |
| Gender | Any new service should be encouraged to employ female staff and volunteers to cater for those older women who are nervous about allowing men into their homes. However, as it is very likely that most care staff are women, it will also be important to ensure male staff are available for those clients that wish this. |
| Age | Older people may be afraid that they cannot cope on their own once discharged and be reluctant to ask for help. This service will therefore be beneficial for older people to regain their confidence to continue to live at home with the necessary support |
| Disability | Although this is a short-term service to allow the recipient to feel confident, volunteers would take into account particular disabilities and where appropriate, put the older person in touch with befriending and any other specialist services for continuing needs |
| Religion / belief | As with ethnicity, the new contractors will have to take into account cultural requirements when entering someone's home and this will be stated within the contract and monitored |
| Sexual orientation | Strict equalities conditions within the contract would monitor and deal with any issues reported by a user |
| Low income | This service would assist those on low income to get back to work quicker due to the hands-on support on return from hospital. |
| Consultation feedback to the question: 'Do you think that the proposal would have a negative impact on any of the following equality groups?' | A majority (ranging from 68% - 85%) thought that the practical support services (Care and Repair and Handyperson; Home from hospital) models would not have a negative impact on any of the equality groups |

| | |
|---|--|
| Care and Activity Model_– Overall positive impact | |
| Ethnicity | Specialist support to BME users including use of staff and volunteers with relevant languages; more flexible catering provision; cafeteria or restaurant style meals should encourage more FACS eligible clients from BME communities to use these services. |
| Gender | Small group activities are proposed for those who show a particular interest, including greater emphasis on activities of particular interest to men. Health Surgeries would be beneficial to women as they have higher degrees of health related issues. |
| Age | The departure from the traditional day care service, through the use of an enablement approach to support older people to do things for themselves instead of doing it for them and is aimed at encouraging participation even at this high need level, The council has is able to draw on the significant experience of the Enablement Service which has been successful for many older people, in reducing dependency on services, including for those who are very frail. |
| Disability | This service will provide on-going support for as long as it is needed; there will be specialist support to users with Dementia and outreach visits to users (whose ill-health sometimes prevents their |

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| | attendance). |
| Religion / belief | Religion or belief - would be taken into account in the provision of new services. As there will be involvement of users to contribute to future policy, these should be catered for. |
| Sexual orientation | Any negative impact is unlikely under strict equalities conditions within the contract. |
| Low income | Older people on low income could if eligible under FACS and Fairer Charging criteria be provided with services free of charge. |
| Potential inequality | There may be inequality within this model between those assessed with FACS critical / substantial as eligible needs and those with lesser needs. However, if the eligibility criteria were to be lessened, this would place a greater demand on services and thus people in the greatest need not being served. For older people, particularly with disabilities who have low or moderate needs, a range of current and proposed services would offer appropriate support. |
| Consultation feedback to the question: 'Do you think that the proposal would have a negative impact on any of the following equality groups?' | A majority (ranging from 76% - 86%) thought that the Care and Activity model would not have a negative impact on any of the equality groups |

2. Equalities Action Plan

2.1 The majority of the issues raised in Equality Assessment will be dealt with when the specifications for the new services are drawn up. Additionally, comments made within the consultation document will ensure:

- Specification for the proposed new services would stipulate culturally specific services must be delivered in a variety of languages
- Access to any information services should be made simple and clear to cater for older people
- Localised volunteer teams should source clients from BME groups or those with particular language or cultural needs
- Apart from ensuring access to premises and services within the specification, services should be not only be geographically based but also organised according to interest, potential users with disabilities could be specifically targeted and services geared toward their needs.
- Services should be affordable and as more locally based services would reduce travel costs, people could pay for services that interest them individually rather than a service a ready-made one on offer.
- Any new service will need to take into account language barriers as well as cultural requirements when entering someone's home
- Any new service will be encouraged to employ female operatives, not only for equality in employment but also to cater for those older women who are nervous about allowing men into their homes.
- There may be inequality within the Care and Activity model between those assessed with FACS critical / substantial and those with lesser

needs. For older people, particularly with disabilities who have low or moderate needs, a range of alternative services should be on offer.

APPENDIX 2 - OLDER ADULTS DAY OPPORTUNITIES MODEL

1. Model 1: Later Life Planners

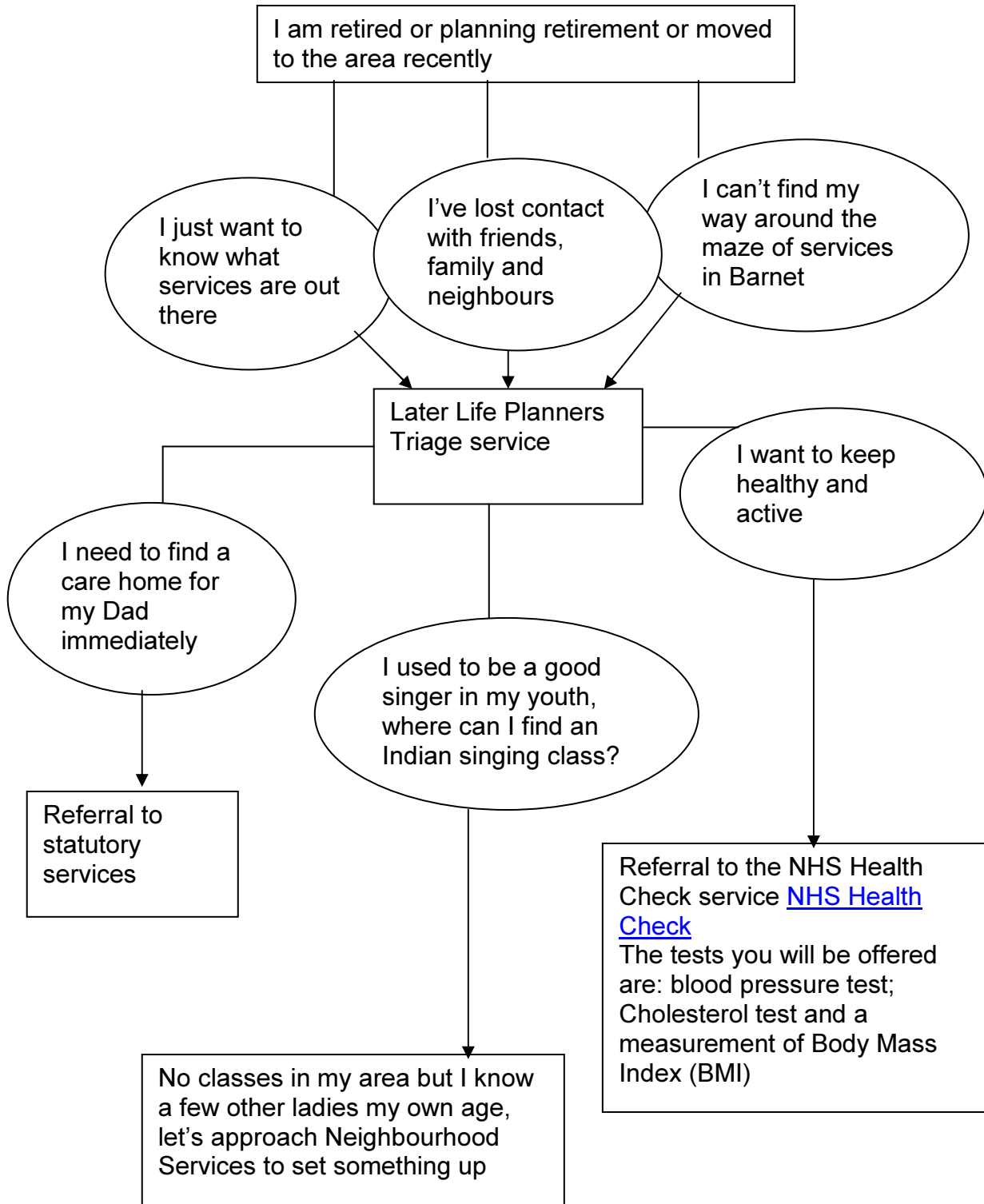
As proposed in the consultation document:

- 1.1 This model aims to provide a flexible 'one stop shop' for older people to help them to plan for their future and think about their next steps after retirement, to help keep them well and active. The Council understand the importance of having a health check once in a while and this model of support aims to extend this to looking at one's life as a whole and plan ways to sustain or improve wellbeing into old age.
- 1.2 This service would also aim to support people who need help to solve practical problems, or who may already have a need to access some of the services available for Barnet's elderly and disabled residents.
- 1.3 Its key features are as follows:
 - Universal – open to all older people in the borough, but individual support aimed at those most in need
 - Specific support to enable individuals to plan for the future, find the right services, and exercise choice and control
 - Provision of advice, information and advocacy, building an individual's ability to help themselves
 - Provision of local expert advice - where to find a lunch club, where to join an exercise class
 - Help to find one's way around Barnet's health, social care and housing services
 - Help to get specialist advice, for example about moving into residential care including financial implications, and finding a local care home
 - Help when it is needed before a situation reaches a crisis point
 - Support to get welfare and pension benefits and other financial help
 - Accompanying people to mainstream activities for a short while, such as lunch clubs, cultural events
 - The provider will ensure that there are volunteers available with language skills and cultural knowledge for all the main minority ethnic groups in Barnet

Proposed Later Life Planners Model

- 1.4 This has been described as the Triage for the Continuum of Care Services for Older Adults. In other words, this model will identify a route from planning for older age to keeping well and healthy; using the practical support services as required; getting back on their feet after a hospital stay to using facilities if the person's needs become greater than they can manage themselves
- 1.5 The Later Life Planners model will be contributing to the NHS Health Checks initiative to ensure that an environment exists that includes

health checks as a matter of priority to enable older people plan for their later life. However, it should be stated that the Later Life Planner model will exist as an integral part but not exclusively linked to health checks. This is demonstrated in the diagram below.



2. Model 2: Neighbourhood Services

As proposed in the consultation document:

- 2.1 This aims to provide a range of social events and activities in a local area to promote well-being; and reduce isolation, which can lead to loneliness and depression.
- 2.2 The proposal for neighbourhood services means that there would be places in every neighbourhood where activities will be run. Activities will be located in ordinary community resources such as community centres, libraries; in fact any place where people can gather. This means that no-one will be left out just because they do not live near a day centre.
- 2.3 Key features of the Neighbourhood Model are as follows:
 - Universal – which means they will be open to all older people in the borough but will particularly aim to support people who are living alone and/or those facing hardship to help them get extra support
 - Neighbourhood based - every area of the borough would be covered
 - Services will be operated by local volunteer teams working from neighbourhood centres across the borough
 - The provider will ensure that there are volunteers available with language skills and cultural knowledge for all the main minority ethnic groups within Barnet
 - Activities could be located in community centres, libraries; in fact any place where people can gather
 - A range of activities could be arranged such as exercise classes, religious and cultural events, walking groups, interest based clubs etc, which would help to enhance friendships and social networks
 - Activities could also include befriending services to people in their own homes by trained volunteers

Proposed Neighbourhood Services Model

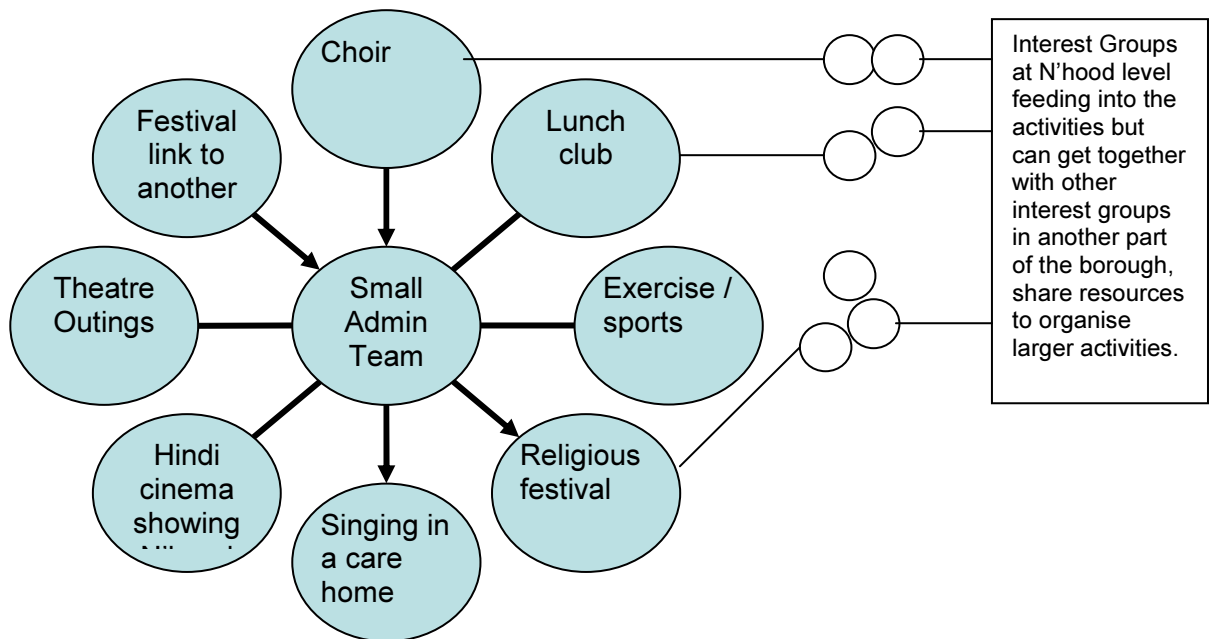
- 2.4 It is proposed to increase the resource envelope for this model to £550,000 in order to achieve the aspirations of the council, providers and users alike to create a flexible but useable model.
- 2.5 Initial discussions on the Neighbourhood model has estimated the creation of 7 – 8 neighbourhoods based on postcode areas. This will be mapped out with the Provider and User groups, taking into account transport facilities and amenities nearby.
- 2.6 The use of buildings on an ad hoc or more permanent basis will be discussed with Property Services, incorporating the strategic plan to co-locate and manage community assets more effectively with our partners. In addition there is a planned Ageing Well Project to ensure there are meeting places for groups in all parts of the borough. Use of

local facilities; existing community facilities, church halls, schools, care homes, libraries plus private space such as function rooms in clubs will be explored and the council is supporting a separate stream of work on access to community facilities.

- 2.7 The need for adequate and affordable transport has been raised frequently in all consultation meetings as well as the postal survey. On this basis it is expected that the contracted provider will need to make proposals regarding affordable transport options; sharing of resources, taxi sharing, use of volunteer drivers etc. However, the very local nature of the neighbourhood model may reduce transport requirements to a certain extent.
- 2.8 The preferred model as discussed by Providers proposes a small central team which will administer the council funding and send back performance / monitoring information. The majority of the funding will be targeted at neighbourhood level for 'grassroots' growth of interest-based activities. These will evolve and if there is enough interest, continue with participants organising future activities with the help of volunteers or if interest fades, the group will cease or evolve into something else.
- 2.9 The vision for neighbourhood hubs is that they will offer a mix of individual support, small group activity and larger events, in response to the needs and preferences of local communities. Services will be operated by local volunteer teams, supervised by paid staff. How this is organised would depend on the eventual provider but paid staff could include for example part time service co-ordinator plus a volunteer co-ordinator. The staff would work closely with existing groups and volunteers - any future provider would need to be able to describe how they would do that.
- 2.10 A mixture of social events and interest based activities are suggested, as well as befriending to people in their own homes. These will evolve, and if there is sufficient interest, groups will continue but organised and run by participants (exercise, sport, day trips, socials were most mentioned in the consultation). Activities will also help to foster social networks and friendships.
- 2.11 There could also be outreach to isolated older people in the community. We are aiming to start work on this soon for example, by identifying friendship groups within existing day centres and working with the groups and the existing provider to see what sort of activities they might wish to continue as a group, where they could meet and how this could be facilitated. This would also aid a smooth transition.
- 2.12 Services will be open to all, but will particularly aim to support those living alone. Timings could be weekdays and weekends or a portion of the day. Working closely with Later Life Planners there would be cross-

fertilisation of ideas for new services based on interest or demand as well as direction to the services to maintain and grow them.

- 2.13 There would be opportunities for interest groups at neighbourhood level to get together with other interest groups in other parts of the borough to share resources/organise larger activities. An example is shown in the diagram below.



3. Model 3: Practical Support

As proposed in the consultation document:

- 3.1 Handyperson services: Help with large or small jobs around the home to make sure it's safe, warm and in good repair. Key features are as follows:

- Available across Barnet
- Help with a range of small jobs around the home and garden (plumbing, decorating, removal of furniture, smoke alarms, gardening)
- Help to choose an approved contractor if a home needs bigger repairs and maintenance - and a checking service on the contractor's bill and standard of work
- Advice and help to make a home secure to reduce the risk of burglary
- Help to get adaptations such as rails or stair lifts so residents can get about safely in their home
- Help to apply for grants if one can't afford the adaptations needed
- Referrals to other agencies/services for people needing specialist assistance

- 3.2 As is the case now, the contractor will be likely to make a small charge for example, for materials etc.
- 3.3 Home from Hospital: Help with moving back home from hospital once your medical needs have been met. The key features are as follows:
- Available across Barnet
 - Emotional and practical support
 - Assistance with shopping/collecting prescriptions etc.
 - Food parcel on the day of discharge
 - Assistance with bills/paperwork that may have accumulated during a stay in hospital
 - Liaison with other services
 - Escort to hospital visits, GP, etc

Existing Services

- 3.4 Barnet Care and Repair Agency is run by the council's Environment and Neighbourhood Services and works with older people and disabled people of all ages in the Barnet area helping them to live independently and safely in their own homes.
- 3.5 Age UK Barnet's Handyperson Service provides practical help to older people in their homes; maintain their independence at home. Adjustments can be made to homes to prevent falls and assistance given to keep homes safe. The service also aids hospital discharge.
- 3.6 Hospital social work teams will assist people if they are going into hospital, and if they need help when they leave to continue to live safely and independently at home.
- 3.7 The British Red Cross helps people following a short stay in hospital and prevents unnecessary hospital admissions by providing extra support and care at home.
- 3.8 Both the Handyperson Service currently run by Age UK and Home from Hospital services run by British Red Cross are contracted providers and subject to this report are potentially affected as part of these proposals in terms of their organisation.

Proposed Practical Support Services

- 3.9 The practical support model contained within these proposals are intended to complement the existing Care and Repair Agency run by the council's Environment and Neighbourhood Service and as can be seen by the consultation results, is a welcome service.

- 3.10 Whether or not the Practical Support model would be centralised services located in one part of the borough or whether they can be delivered as part of the Neighbourhood service will be discussed and form part of the service specification..

4. Model 4: Care and Activity Model, Day Opportunities for Older People with Extra Need for Support

As proposed in the consultation document:

- 4.1 This covers day centre services catering for the most frail, those with significant personal care needs, with complex needs, and for those with dementia. Whilst there is an expectation that all services welcome people with dementia and people from ethnic minority groups; in the past there has been a case for separate provision for those with high levels of dementia (including those under 65 years old) and specialist provision for some individuals from the Asian community.
- 4.2 The Council already commissions these kinds of services (they include the day centres run by Fremantle Trust and the Marillac Centre run by the Barnet Alzheimer's Society) but they propose to provide fewer but better quality places in future. At present, the services are not geared to the needs of individual people as well as they should be. The council want to make sure that they are attractive to the people who most need them – and make a real difference in preventing residential care admissions where this is not the right solution for a person.
- 4.3 Currently the Council funds these services directly but in the future the majority of this funding will be from individuals using their Personal Budgets.
- 4.4 The key features are as follows:
- Targeted at those with high needs in line with London Borough of Barnet Fair Access to Care (FACS) eligibility criteria for social care
 - Aimed at supporting people who are at high risk of admission to residential or nursing care homes, or at risk of frequent hospital episodes
 - Provision of respite for carers, and carers support circle
 - Flexible sessional attendance – i.e. full day, AM or PM, plus week-end cover
 - Providing on-going support for as long as it is needed
 - An 'enabling' approach from a core team of carers and volunteers, to support people to do things themselves, instead of doing it for them.

Proposed Care and Activity Model

- 4.5 Who is the service for?

- 4.5.1 The service will be available to older people who meet LBB's FACS eligibility criteria (Substantial/Critical).
- 4.5.2 The provider(s) of these centres will be expected to offer a service to people who are particularly frail/vulnerable with high personal care needs, with complex needs and will include those with high levels of dementia.
- 4.5.3 Currently there is some separate provision for dementia care and for older Asian people. These separate services have been endorsed via the public consultation and it is expected that providers will continue to offer this service.
- 4.5.4 Many of those who attend the care and activity centres will be seriously at risk of admission to long term care/hospital. The provider(s) will be expected to offer an enabling approach to their care with the aim of maintaining/improving their independence in order to minimise this risk.
- 4.5.5 The Provider(s) will be required to run centres in such a way as to make them attractive to older people with personal budgets – involving greater flexibility and reflecting the fact that service users and their carers will expect to have greater choice and control over their services.
- 4.5.6 The Provider(s) must reflect the need for carer respite in the delivery of this service – offering weekday and week-end cover. They must also make links to residential care to allow for the continued attendance of users receiving residential respite care in the absence of their carers.
- 4.6 Location
- 4.6.1 Barnet is geographically a very large borough with congested traffic conditions and poor cross-borough transport links.
- 4.6.2 The client group for care and activity centres is likely to continue to require door-to-door transport which is an expensive resource – currently provided by the Council.
- 4.6.3 Fremantle Centres are located in Brunswick Park (Apthorp - Mainstream), Woodside Park (Meadowside - for dementia only) and Cricklewood (Rosa Freedman - Mainstream/Asian) (A fourth centre, Merrivale in Burnt Oak, is just closing with users being transferred to Rosa Freedman).
- 4.6.4 The Marillac Centre (run by Alzheimer's Society) which also supports many FACS eligible older people is located at Edgware Community Hospital.

- 4.6.5 The Sam Beckman Centre (run by Jewish Care) for users with dementia is located in Hendon.
- 4.6.6 Current Voluntary Sector providers whose day centres are subject to the proposals for day opportunities contained in this report also support a number of FACS eligible users. These are located as follows:
- Ann Owens Centre -Age UK -East Finchley
 - Meritage Centre- Age UK - Hendon
 - East Barnet Baptist Church - FIN - East Barnet
 - Anand - ASRA- Whetstone
 - Multicultural Centre - BACA/BAOPA - West Hendon
- 4.6.7 In the event that these voluntary organisations have to reorganise their services under the current proposals which may mean closure of accommodation based services, the borough will be left with the Fremantle centres (and Rosa Freedman is threatened by the Cricklewood Regeneration) and the remaining care and activity centres located away from the areas where demand for support is highest (see attached map). The consequent journey times for some frail users may not be viable.

5. Capacity

- 5.1 It should be noted that Barnet's older population (65+) is predicted to increase by 21% by 2020 with an increase of 55% for the 90+ age group – who are likely to be the most frail and in need of support, which could increase the demand for day care.
- 5.2 With the exception of provision for those with dementia there has to date been an oversupply of places for FACS eligible older people, including Fremantle and the voluntary sector centres. (Although there are already issues over journey times for residents from Edgware, Hale, Mill Hill and Burnt Oak in particular).
- 5.3 The current contracted providers of day centres have been asked to rank their current users as to the probability of immediate requirements for new or additional statutory social care or health interventions. Once assessed, some of these may require care and activity type placements. These may not be available either due to capacity issues at Fremantle centres or because of the long journey times involved in reaching the centres.

6. Use of Alternative Centres

- 6.1 A possible solution to capacity and location issues could be for the main care provider to consider renting space to run day care in some of the better located centres currently offering day care in the voluntary sector – for example: the Ann Owens Centre (previously used by Fremantle during the temporary closure of Meadowside) or the Multicultural Centre – suitable perhaps for Asian users.

- 6.2 Space could be rented for 1 or 2 days per week in addition to the current centres or current centres could be closed on these days depending on demand and costs.
- 6.3 This change would result in shorter journey times for users and would fit in with the requirement for a more flexible approach to day care sessions – envisaged with the introduction of personal budgets (as some voluntary sector centres might become neighbourhood hubs where day centre users could also access other preventative services).

7. Sessions

- 7.1 For some users/prospective users the current 11am – 4 pm five hour daily session at most care and activity centres including the Fremantle centres is seen as being too long – particularly with journey times to be added on.
- 7.2 For Fremantle users who are not eligible for LBB funding the cost of attendance is approximately £37 per session plus lunch money – considerably more than voluntary sector providers and too costly for many people.
- 7.3 The cost of transport in the future is uncertain for those who may not meet the new eligibility criteria for door-to-door transport which is currently being consulted on.
- 7.4 It has to be assumed that Fremantle would need to charge approximately £37 per session to those with personal budgets and it seems unlikely that LBB would be in a position to offer a sufficient level of finance for personal budget holders to make frequent attendance a viable proposition.
- 7.5 The possibility of providing shorter sessions AM and PM would therefore seem to be a sensible alternative for many prospective users as these would be less tiring and less costly.
- 7.6 Some longer sessions will continue to be necessary to meet the needs of users who require constant supervision and to meet the need for carer respite.

8. Meals

- 8.1 This approach could also be applied to meals with a wider selection of food, café style service and the possibility of breakfasts and suppers in addition/as alternatives to lunches for those attending shorter sessions.

9. Activities

- 9.1 Most centres already provide a pre-planned weekly menu of activities – which of necessity are designed to appeal to the large majority of users on any one day. This means that there is less opportunity to run many

‘special interest’ activities which could be attractive to people who currently do not attend day centres. (The ‘Bingo’ factor).

- 9.2 In addition to certain core activities the Provider(s) could be required to offer the opportunity to users to attend any centre (easier with shorter sessions) and this would allow for a greater range of activities – for example: a series of classes on particular topics, activities for men (whose special interests have not been well represented to date), which should make them more attractive to personal budget holders and self-funders.
- 9.3 The Provider(s) could be required to organise occasional special events for which users would be asked to pool their finances, including evening events e.g. theatre/film/concerts, day-time outings to places outside Barnet (supported by many current users during consultation events) and markets at centres to give users shopping opportunities.

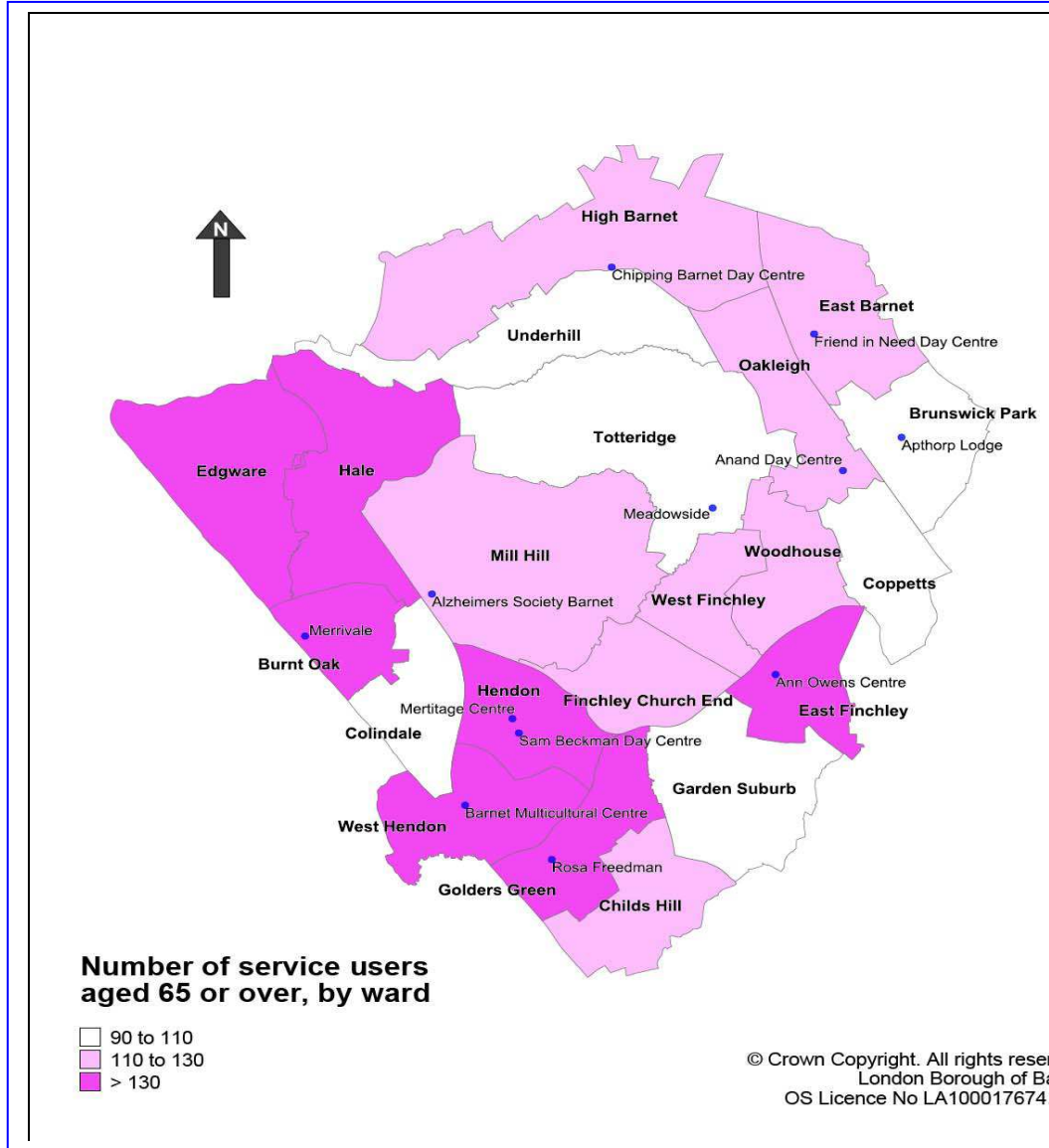
10. Outreach

- 10.1 Associate membership - With more flexible attendance and programming, the Provider(s) could offer prospective users – a link to their organisation via a regular newsletter outlining upcoming events, monthly social gatherings at centres and an element of regular outreach.
- 10.2 Supportive visits by staff (or possibly volunteers) to regular users during periods when they are unable to attend through ill health
- 10.3 Supportive visits (following discussion with Social Work assessors/brokers) to vulnerable individuals who would benefit from centre attendance but appear reluctant to attend (at all or regularly).
- 10.4 Links to neighbourhood hubs/organisations to publicise the value of care and activity centres.
- 10.5 Offering centres as neighbourhood hubs/places for meetings - e.g. friendship groups – out of normal day care hours

11. User/Carer/Peer Group Involvement

- 11.1 Users/carers could be offered training by the Adult Social Care and Health Service to facilitate their more active involvement in this area. The Provider(s) should be required to involve and provide evidence of the involvement of users in decisions on:
- Content of menus
 - Activity programmes
 - Appropriate celebratory events – including religious/cultural festivals
 - Colour schemes, furnishing of centres, garden schemes

- 11.2 Advocacy and/or access to relevant interpreting or translation services should be made available by the provider(s) as required.
- 11.3 The Provider(s) should ensure that regular minuted meetings of users are held at each centre to allow for discussion on the running of each centre and matters of policy/decisions of statutory services which would affect the users. The minutes to be distributed to all centre users.
- 11.4 The Provider(s) would be required to undertake regular (annual) satisfaction surveys with users/carers. The surveys to be devised with input from independent older people representing Barnet's older population.
- 11.5 The Provider(s) should also establish an overall users group via nominations from users to be involved in decision making on operational issues with the provider(s) including:
- Involvement in staff and volunteer recruitment, induction and appraisal
 - Involvement in monitoring of the service – to include some external scrutiny from 'independent' older people representing Barnet's older population.
- 11.6 Evidence from the consultation process showed that users enjoyed being made to feel useful. This could be fulfilled by:
- The Provider(s) facilitating intergenerational activity with users encouraged to assist children from local schools in project work or other activities as appropriate.
 - Users involved in meaningful tasks around their centre, helping to organise activities, running their own magazine
- 11.7 The Provider(s) should facilitate carer circles at each centre.



| Ward population | Service users aged 65+ | % of population |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Brunswick Park (2,564) | 93 | 3.6 |
| Burnt Oak (1,460) | 135 | 9.2 |
| Childs Hill (2,511) | 113 | 4.5 |
| Colindale (1,479) | 90 | 6.0 |
| Coppetts (1,610) | 103 | 6.4 |
| East Barnet (2,030) | 122 | 6.0 |
| East Finchley (1,973) | 131 | 6.6 |
| Edgware (2,070) | 130 | 6.2 |
| Finchley Church End (2,423) | 116 | 4.8 |
| Garden Suburb (2,271) | 103 | 4.5 |
| Golders Green (1,987) | 158 | 7.9 |
| Hale (2,193) | 133 | 6.0 |
| Hendon (2,214) | 159 | 7.2 |
| High Barnet (2,158) | 118 | 5.5 |
| Mill Hill (2,223) | 120 | 5.4 |
| Oakleigh (2,560) | 115 | 4.5 |
| Totteridge (2,150) | 108 | 5.0 |
| Underhill (2,282) | 105 | 4.6 |
| West Finchley (1,900) | 112 | 5.9 |
| West Hendon (1,925) | 131 | 6.8 |
| Woodhouse (2,026) | 127 | 6.3 |
| Total 44,009 | 2,522 | 5.7 |

APPENDIX 3 – CONSULTATION RESULTS

Appendix 3A – RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION – POSTAL AND WEB

‘Modernising Day Opportunities for Older People’ Consultation

On behalf of Barnet Borough Council

SMSR
social and market strategic research

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Final Report
June 2012

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Background

The council and its partners with citizens have been actively listening to the views of older people and their carers about Barnet's current day services for older people funded by the council. The Council are aware that they are largely very traditional and may not offer sufficient choice for many people, nor provide the most appropriate support to help people live as independently as possible. Although valued by some, they are only available for a small minority of older people in Barnet.

The Council believe that these services need to be re-designed to meet a growing variety of independent living choices and to meet the diverse of needs and aspirations of Barnet residents later in life. More people are living longer and this is good news however it brings challenges to many local services, not just the NHS and social services. In addition older people have rising expectations of a good quality of life during retirement. As there is severe pressure on the council's resources and on the whole public sector they wish to ensure they act now to invest for the future so they positively prepare for these challenges.

Following discussion with the Older Adults Partnership Board and representatives from the current day service providers, this consultation sets out 4 models for organising day opportunities and support for older people. The four models are as follows:

Model one, late life planners: A flexible 'one stop shop' for older people to help them to plan for their future and think about their next steps after retirement, to help keep them well and active.

Model two, a neighbourhood model: This aims to provide a range of social events and activities in a local area to promote well-being; and reduce isolation, which can lead to loneliness and depression.

Model 3, Practical support (including Care and Repair & Handyperson; home from the hospital): Help with large or small jobs around the home to make sure it's safe, warm and in good repair.

Model 4: Care and Activity model – day opportunities for older people with extra need for support: Day centre services catering for the most frail, those with significant personal care needs, with complex needs, and for those with dementia.

Consultation Aims

The Council wants to consult with people who have used the services or who might want to use day services in the future. They also would like to hear from carers and families as well as the many organisations that work with older people or that represents the views of older people.

2.0 METHODOLOGY/SAMPLE

A survey was designed by officers at London Borough of Barnet which was used to ask residents of Barnet their opinions on the four models.

The survey was carried out using a postal methodology and residents have been given until 25 May and then extended to 15th June 2012 to complete the survey. In addition residents were given the opportunity to complete the survey online. In total 271 surveys were completed of which 26 were completed online.

The breakdown of the sample is as follows:

| Gender | Number | % |
|-------------|--------|------|
| Male | 77 | 28.4 |
| Female | 185 | 68.3 |
| No response | 9 | 3.3 |

| Age | Number | % |
|-------------|--------|------|
| Under 60 | 32 | 11.8 |
| 60-64 | 28 | 10.3 |
| 65-69 | 33 | 12.2 |
| 70-74 | 49 | 18.1 |
| 75-79 | 41 | 15.1 |
| 80+ | 81 | 29.9 |
| No response | 7 | 2.6 |

| Disability | Number | % |
|-------------|--------|------|
| Yes | 125 | 46.1 |
| No | 118 | 43.5 |
| No response | 28 | 10.3 |

| Ethnicity | Number | % |
|------------------------|--------|------|
| White or White British | 119 | 43.9 |
| No response | 10 | 3.7 |
| Asian or Asian British | 125 | 46.1 |
| Black or Black British | 10 | 3.7 |
| Mixed | 3 | 1.1 |
| Other ethnic group | 12 | 1.5 |

| Religion | Number | % |
|----------|--------|---|
|----------|--------|---|

| | | |
|-------------------|-----|------|
| Christian | 86 | 31.7 |
| No response | 16 | 5.9 |
| Jewish | 23 | 8.5 |
| No religion | 11 | 4.1 |
| Muslim | 7 | 2.6 |
| Hindu | 107 | 39.5 |
| Buddhist | 1 | 0.4 |
| Jain | 3 | 1.1 |
| Other | 0 | 0.0 |
| Agnostic | 1 | 0.4 |
| Baha'i | 0 | 0.0 |
| Sikh | 5 | 1.8 |
| Atheist | 3 | 1.1 |
| Humanist | 3 | 1.1 |
| Prefer not to say | 5 | 1.8 |

| Sexuality | Number | % |
|-------------------|--------|------|
| No response | 77 | 28.4 |
| Heterosexual | 102 | 37.6 |
| Bisexual | 5 | 1.8 |
| Gay | 7 | 2.6 |
| Lesbian | 24 | 8.9 |
| Other | 7 | 2.6 |
| Prefer not to say | 49 | 18.1 |

The breakdown of individual response in terms of their background was as follows:

| Can you tell us in what capacity you are completing this questionnaire? (Base: 231) | | |
|---|--------|------|
| Capacity | Number | % |
| I use day services for older adults | 137 | 59.3 |
| I am a relative , carer or friend of someone who uses day services for adults | 31 | 13.4 |
| My job involves work with older people in Barnet | 16 | 6.9 |
| I do voluntary work with older people in Barnet | 27 | 11.7 |
| I am interested in older adults day opportunities for other reasons | 20 | 8.7 |

19 respondents completed a questionnaire on behalf of an organisation; these organisations were:

- Age UK Barnet
- Jewish Care
- Willow Housing and Care
- Friend in Need Community Centre
- BEHMHT
- Candle Court Care Home
- The Freemantle Trust
- Barnet African Caribbean Association
- Colindale Community Club
- Chipping Barnet Day Centre for the Elderly
- Barnet Older People's Assembly
- Memory Lane Singing Club
- The good neighbour scheme for Mill Hill and Burnt Oak
- RSVP
- Advocacy in Barnet
- Barnet Asian Old People's Association
- ROSA Freeman Centre
- Burnt Oak and District Pensioners Group
- Green Man Community Centre

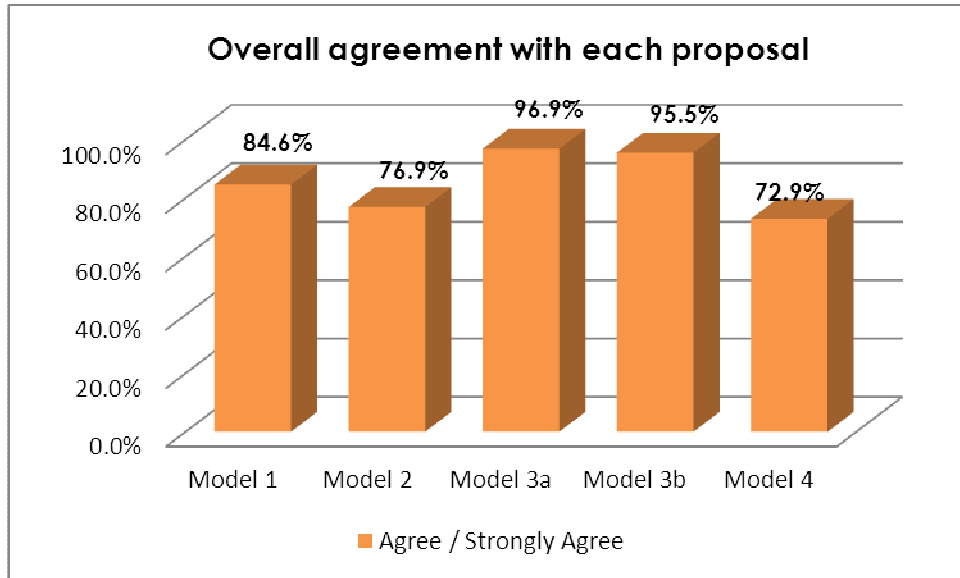
Due to rounding and multiple responses to some questions, figures may not always add up to 100%. In addition to this tables in the report display the responses given most frequently. A complete list of all percentages and responses can be found in the appendices.

The data in this report has not been weighted.

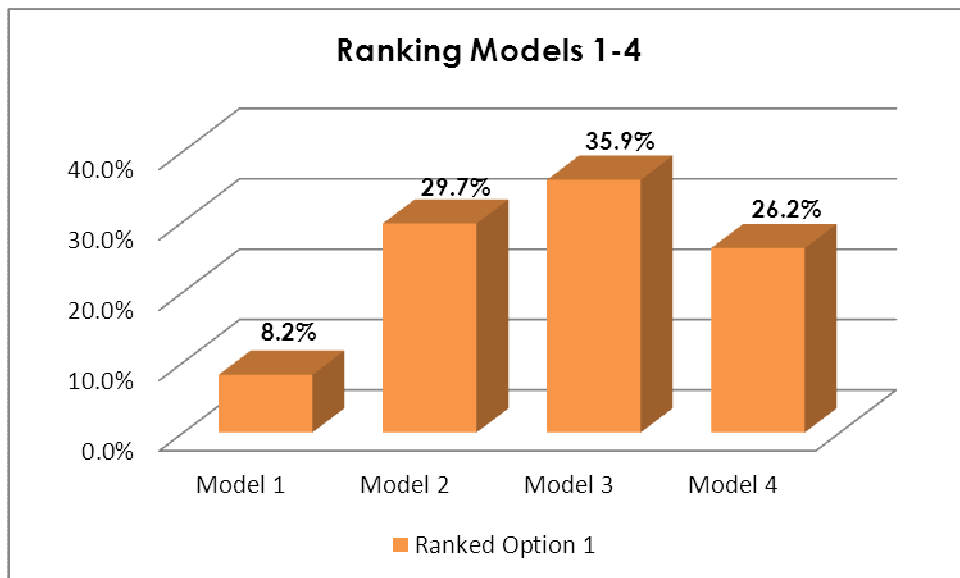
For reporting purposes and to be consistent with the disagreement option, responses of 'strongly agree' and 'tend to agree' have been combined as 'tend to agree'.

3.0 SUMMARY

Agreement for all four proposed models was high; however it is the two parts of model 3 that achieved the highest level of overall agreement (97% and 96% respectively). The lowest levels of agreement are around model 4 (73%).



When asked to prioritise the 4 models again, it is clear that model 3 would be more respondents top priority, yet model 1, although achieving high levels of agreement in terms of its usefulness, would only be the top priority for 8% of respondents.



Model 1: Late Life Planners

Overall, 46% strongly agreed that the model would be useful and 39% agreed giving a combined level of agreement of 85%.

The majority did not think or were unsure whether this would have a negative impact on the various community groups they were questioned about; the highest level of concern was for people with a disability (16%) and for those with an ethnic minority background (15%).

Eight respondents (24%) of those who were concerned about a negative impact had concerns over costs and stressed that cost must be affordable for these community groups.

Model 2: Neighbourhood Model

Over three-quarters (77%) of respondents agreed that this model was useful, with 42% in strong agreement and 35% in agreement.

More than half said it was the postcode area that defined a neighbourhood in Barnet, with 22% suggesting it was the town centre and 16% based it on ward level.

Practical assistance was considered the top activity to help older people maintain their health and well-being, however all prompted activities were rated positively (80% +).

More than a fifth said that this model would have a negative impact on people with a low income (20%), people with particular beliefs (22%), people from ethnic minority backgrounds (22%) and people with disabilities (25%). That said at least 62% said it would not have a negative impact and this rose to as high as 76% and 75% for women and men.

More than half of these respondents said that there needs to be a separate provision for cultural needs if it is to avoid a negative impact.

Model 3: Practical Support (Including Care and Repair & Handyperson; Home form Hospital)

The vast majority were in agreement of both aspects of this model, with 97% considering the Care and Repair and Handyperson element useful and 96% considering the Home form Hospital aspect useful.

The vast majority felt these would not have a negative impact on the various community groups.

Model 4: Care and Activity Model

Agreement on this model's usefulness was also high as 44% strongly agreed and 29% agreed, meaning a total of 73% indicated a level of agreement.

Exercise and sports classes (30%) along with day trips (26%), nail care (23%) and hair dressing (23%) were the most frequently mentioned activities that could be provided at the day care centres for people with high needs.

The majority felt this model would not have a negative impact on the different community groups, however more than a fifth said that this model would have a negative impact on people from ethnic minority backgrounds (24%) people with a low income (23%), people with particular beliefs (23%), and people with disabilities (20%).

General Questions

The majority said that separate services are important to older people with dementia (82%), older people with chronic illness / disabilities (71%) and older people from black and ethnic minorities (60%).

In terms of model prioritisation, model 3 was ranked number 1 by the most number of respondents (36%), closely followed by model 2 which was ranked number 1 by 31% of respondents. Model 4 was ranked as a top priority by 27% and just 9% ranked model 1 as their first choice.

4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Model 1: Later Life Planners

This model aims to provide a flexible 'one stop shop' for older people to help them to plan for their future and think about their next steps after retirement, to help keep them well and active. The Council understand the importance of having a health check once in a while and this model of support aims to extend this to looking at one's life as a whole and plan ways to sustain or improve wellbeing into old age.

This service would also aim to support people who need help to solve practical problems, or who may already have a need to access some of the services available for Barnet's elderly and disabled residents.

Its Key features are as follows:

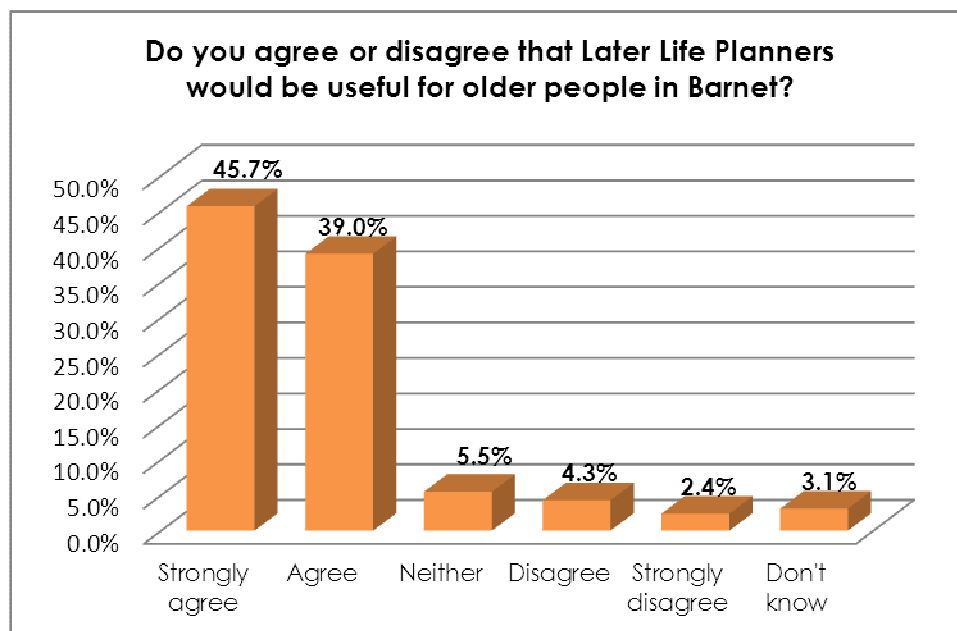
- Universal – open to all older people in the borough, but individual support aimed at those most in need
- Specific support to enable individuals to plan for the future, find the right services, and exercise choice and control
- Provision of advice, information and advocacy, building an individual's ability to help themselves
- Provision of local expert advice - where to find a lunch club, where to join an exercise class

- Help to find one's way around Barnet's health, social care and housing services
- Help to get specialist advice, for example about moving into residential care including financial implications, and finding a local care home
- Help when it is needed before a situation reaches a crisis point
- Support to get welfare and pension benefits and other financial help
- Accompanying people to mainstream activities for a short while, such as lunch clubs, cultural events
- The provider will ensure that there are volunteers available with language skills and cultural knowledge for all the main minority ethnic groups in Barnet

4.1.1 Agreement of the Model

When asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that Later Life Planners would be useful for older people in Barnet, the majority (85%) indicated a level of agreement with 46% in strong agreement. Just 7% disagreed that this proposed model would be useful.

From the 271 respondents to the questionnaire, 254 gave an answer to this question.



4.1.2 Impact of the Proposed Model

Respondents were asked if they felt the proposed Late Life Planners Model would have a negative impact on various groups within the community. People with disabilities were mentioned the most frequently (16%) in terms of the models perceived negative impact. More than four-fifths (81%) said that the model would not have a negative impact on women.

Do you think that Late Life Planners would have a negative impact on any of the groups below?
(Base no in brackets)

| Response | Yes | No | Don't Know / Unsure |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| People from ethnic minority backgrounds | 14.7% (36) | 65.3% (160) | 20.0% (49) |
| People with disabilities | 15.8% (39) | 72.5% (179) | 11.7% (29) |
| People who are bisexual, homosexual or transsexual | 4.5% (11) | 59.7% (145) | 35.8% (87) |
| Men | 6.2% (15) | 78.6% (191) | 15.2% (37) |
| Women | 8.2% (20) | 81.1% (197) | 10.7% (26) |
| People with particular beliefs | 12.3% (30) | 70.4% (171) | 17.3% (42) |
| People with a low income | 12.4% (30) | 70.7% (171) | 16.9% (41) |

4.1.3 Improving Negative Impacts

Respondents who had identified potential negative impacts for specific user groups were asked for ideas on how this issue could be improved. In total, 33 respondents provided an answer, 238 did not.

Of the 33 respondents who suggested an idea, 24% said that any costs involved need to be affordable and 18% suggested life planners must have knowledge of specific services. The most frequent comments are shown in the table below.

| If you think there will be a negative impact on any of the groups above, do you have any ideas about what could be done to improve this? (Base: 33) | | |
|---|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Any costs involved must be affordable | 8 | 24.2 |
| Life planners require knowledge of specific services for groups | 6 | 18.2 |
| Help minorities to integrate | 5 | 15.2 |
| More personal approach required | 5 | 15.2 |
| Specific services for ethnic minorities | 4 | 12.1 |
| Provide transport | 3 | 9.1 |

4.1.4 Any other comments

Finally on the questions about model 1, respondents were asked if they had any other comments about this proposed model and in total 68 respondents gave a comment. The main comments focussed on publicity and transport.

| Do you have any other comments about this proposed model? (Base: 68) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Lots of publicity required for this model | 11 | 16.2 |
| Transport should be provided to access this model | 9 | 13.2 |
| Information should be provided in a variety of languages | 8 | 11.8 |
| This service is already provided (GP's/social workers etc) | 6 | 8.8 |

| | | |
|--|---|-----|
| People may not embrace/feel they need this service | 6 | 8.8 |
| Would be difficult to administer this model | 6 | 8.8 |
| Long-term support is required to run this model | 4 | 5.9 |
| This is not a useful model for ethnic groups | 3 | 4.4 |
| The model is unnecessary in light of funding cuts | 3 | 4.4 |

4.2 Model 2: Neighbourhood Model

This aims to provide a range of social events and activities in a local area to promote well-being; and reduce isolation, which can lead to loneliness and depression.

The proposal for neighbourhood services means that there would be places in every neighbourhood where activities will be run. Activities will be located in ordinary community resources such as community centres, libraries; in fact any place where people can gather. This means that no-one will be left out just because they do not live near a day centre.

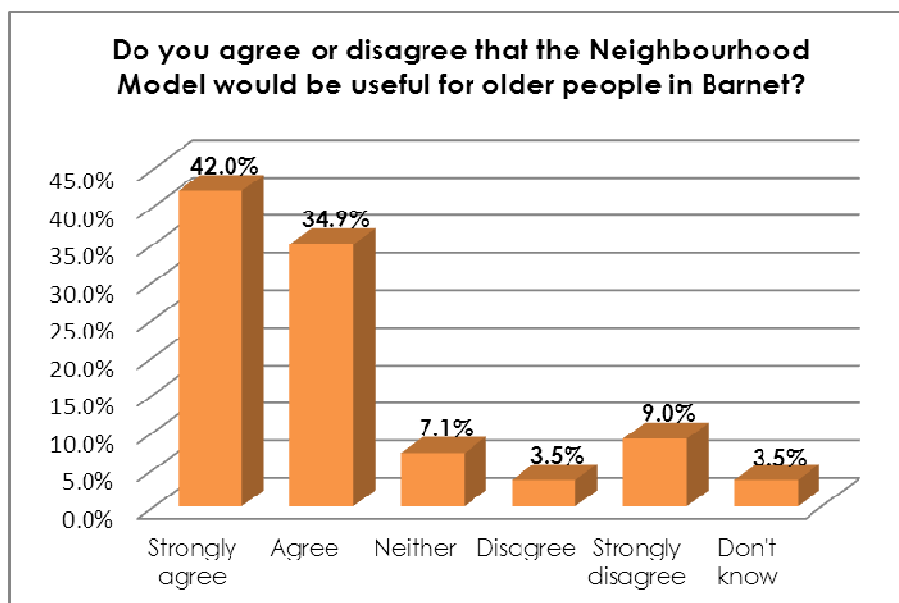
Key features of the Neighbourhood Model are as follows:

- Universal – which means they will be open to all older people in the borough but will particularly aim to support people who are living alone and/or those facing hardship to help them get extra support
- Neighbourhood based - every area of the borough would be covered
- Services will be operated by local volunteer teams working from neighbourhood centres across the borough
- The provider will ensure that there are volunteers available with language skills and cultural knowledge for all the main minority ethnic groups within Barnet
- Activities could be located in community centres, libraries; in fact any place where people can gather
- A range of activities could be arranged such as exercise classes, religious and cultural events, walking groups, interest based clubs etc, which would help to enhance friendships and social networks
- Activities could also include befriending services to people in their own homes by trained volunteers

4.2.1 Agreement of the Model

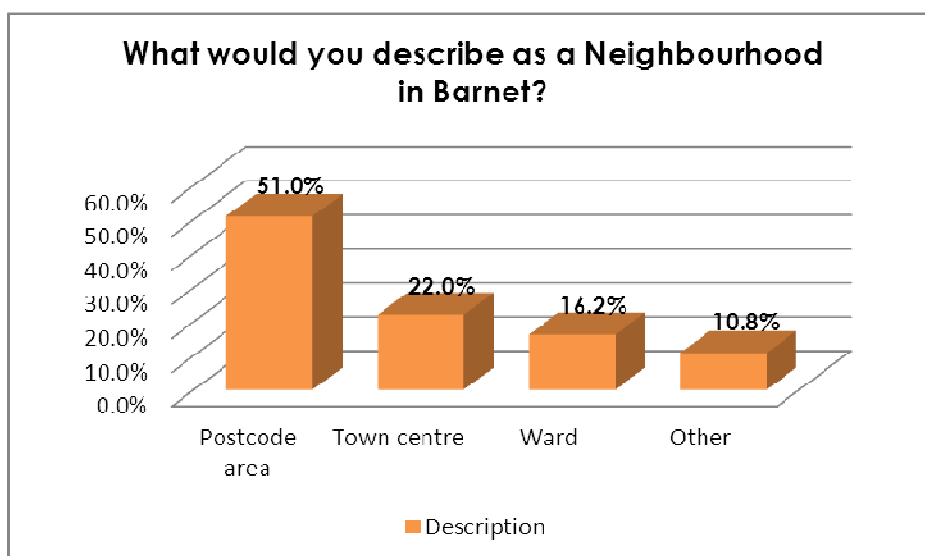
When asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed that the Neighbourhood Model would be useful for older people in Barnet, over three-quarters (77%) said they were in agreement. 4% did not know or had no opinion and 13% disagreed that the Neighbourhood Model would be useful.

From the 271 respondents to the questionnaire, 255 gave an answer to this question.



4.2.2 Description of a 'Neighbourhood'

More than half of all respondents said that a postcode area was the better description for a neighbourhood in Barnet. Just less than a quarter (22%) said it was a town centre and 16% opted for ward. Respondents were asked to pick one of these three from a predetermined list. They also had the option to say other (11%).



Of the 26 respondents that said other, 22 respondents gave responses which are shown in the table below.

| Please describe other? (Base: 22) | | |
|---|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Range of a few streets either side of address | 8 | 36.4 |

| | | |
|--|---|------|
| A community with similar interests and characteristics | 7 | 31.8 |
| Small local groups | 5 | 22.7 |
| Division of Borough | 1 | 4.5 |
| Are surrounding a community centre | 1 | 4.5 |

4.2.3 Activities Best Suited To Health and Well-being Maintenance

When asked about activities which are best suited to help older people maintain their health and well-being, the vast majority (94%) said that practical assistance would be the best suited. Information on cultural and religious activities was mentioned the least frequently (81%).

| Which of the following activities do you feel are best suited to help older people maintain their health and well-being? (Base: 264) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Practical assistance | 249 | 94.3 |
| Befriending | 231 | 87.5 |
| Health promotion | 223 | 84.5 |
| Learning opportunities | 215 | 81.4 |
| Information on cultural / religious activities | 213 | 80.7 |

4.2.4 Local Activities and Events

Respondents were asked what type of other local activities and events they believe would make a difference to older people's health and well-being in Barnet and the main suggestions are shown in the table below. Exercise and sport (25%) and day trips (22%) were mentioned the most frequently.

| What kinds of other local activities and events do you think would make a difference to the health and well-being of older people in Barnet? (Base: 116) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Exercise/sport | 29 | 25.0 |
| Day trips | 26 | 22.4 |
| Lunch club/coffee mornings/socials | 23 | 19.8 |
| Arts | 19 | 16.4 |
| Shopping trips/bus | 10 | 8.6 |
| Health check up | 9 | 7.8 |
| Socialising | 8 | 6.9 |
| Cultural festivities | 7 | 6.0 |

4.2.5 Impact of the Proposed Model

Respondents were asked if they felt the proposed Neighbourhood Model would have a negative impact on various groups within the community and the majority felt it would not have a negative impact on the various community groups. However, at least a fifth of respondents said it would have a negative impact on: people with disabilities (25%); people with particular beliefs (22%); people from ethnic minority backgrounds (22%) and people with a low income (20%).

| Do you think that Late the neighbourhood Model would have a <u>negative</u> impact on any of the groups below? (Base no in brackets) | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Response | Yes | No | Don't Know / Unsure |
| People from ethnic minority backgrounds | 21.7% (55) | 64.2% (163) | 14.2% (36) |
| People with disabilities | 24.9% (63) | 64.0% (162) | 11.1% (28) |
| People who are bisexual, homosexual or transsexual | 7.3% (18) | 60.7% (150) | 32.0% (79) |
| Men | 10.2% (25) | 75.1% (184) | 14.7% (36) |
| Women | 13.1% (32) | 76.2% (186) | 10.7% (26) |
| People with particular beliefs | 21.7% (55) | 62.1% (157) | 16.2% (41) |
| People with a low income | 20.0% (50) | 66.0% (165) | 14.0% (35) |

4.2.6 Improving Negative Impacts

Respondents who had identified potential negative impacts for specific user groups were then asked to give suggestions on how this issue could be improved. 61 respondents provided an answer to this field, 210 did not.

Of those who gave a response, more than half (53%) said there is a need for separate provision for cultural needs, whilst 28% suggested that any costs should be affordable.

| If you think there will be a negative impact on any of the groups above, do you have any ideas about what could be done to improve this? (Base: 61) | | |
|---|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Separate provision for cultural needs | 32 | 52.5 |
| Any costs should be affordable | 17 | 27.9 |
| Provide access for all | 10 | 16.4 |
| Provide transport | 10 | 16.4 |
| Improve disabled access to centres | 9 | 14.8 |
| Provision for dietary needs | 7 | 11.5 |

4.2.7 Any other comments

Respondents were asked if they had any other comments about the proposed Neighbourhood Model and 53 gave a response with the requirement for transport mentioned the most frequently.

| Do you have any other comments about this proposed model? (Base: 53) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Transport required for people who need it | 9 | 17.0 |
| Quality volunteers must be funded and supported | 7 | 13.2 |
| The model will be effective in reducing isolation | 7 | 13.2 |
| This model maintains old people's independence | 5 | 9.4 |
| Important to provide activities in people's own area | 4 | 7.5 |
| Trained, professional staff needed for this model | 4 | 7.5 |

4.3 Model 3: Practical Support (including Care and Repair & Handyperson; Home from Hospital)

Care and Repair, and Handyperson services

Help with large or small jobs around the home to make sure it's safe, warm and in good repair.

Key features are as follows:

- Available across Barnet
- Help with a range of small jobs around the home and garden (plumbing, decorating, removal of furniture, smoke alarms, gardening)
- Help to choose an approved contractor if a home needs bigger repairs and maintenance - and a checking service on the contractor's bill and standard of work
- Advice and help to make a home secure to reduce the risk of burglary
- Help to get adaptations such as rails or stair lifts so residents can get about safely in their home
- Help to apply for grants if one can't afford the adaptations needed
- Referrals to other agencies/services for people needing specialist assistance

As is the case now, the contractor will be likely to make a small charge, for example, for materials etc.

Home from Hospital

Help with moving back home from hospital once your medical needs have been met

The key features are as follows:

- Available across Barnet
- Emotional and practical support

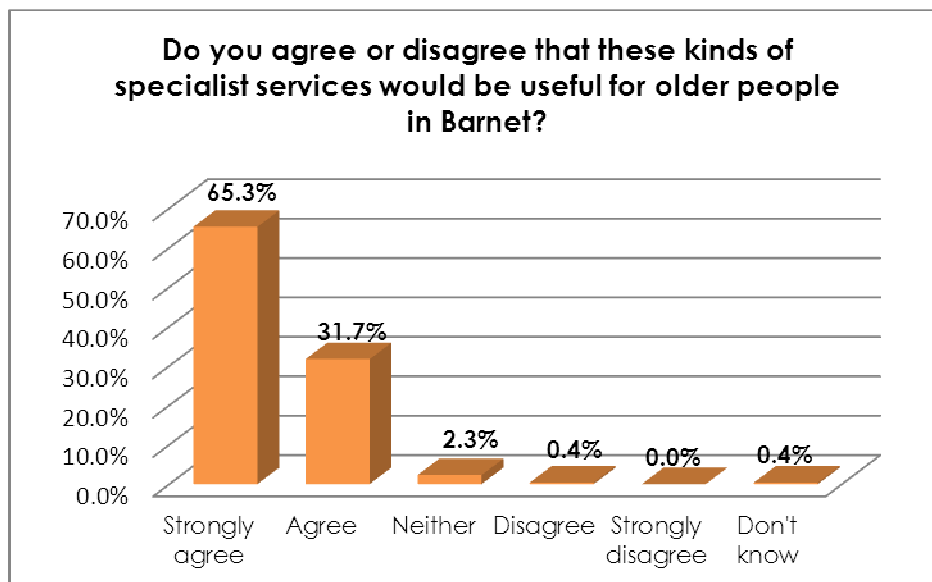
- Assistance with shopping/collecting prescriptions etc.
- Food parcel on the day of discharge
- Assistance with bills/paperwork that may have accumulated during a stay in hospital
- Liaison with other services
- Escort to hospital visits, GP, etc

4.3.1 Agreement of the Model

Care and Repair and Handyperson

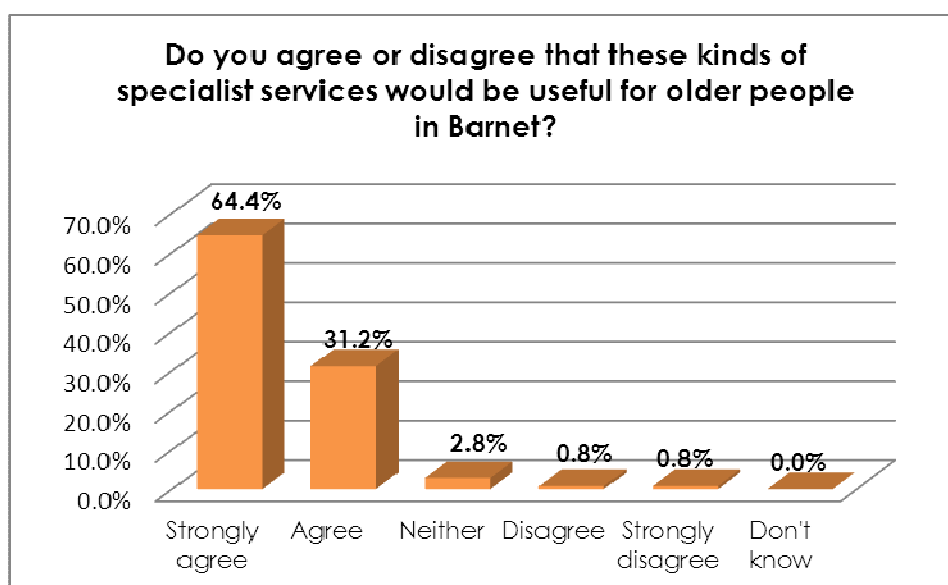
There was almost universal agreement (97%) that the Care and Repair and Handyperson specialist service would be useful for older people in Barnet, with 65% in strong agreement.

From the 271 respondents to the questionnaire, 259 gave an answer to this question.



Home from Hospital

Again there were very high levels of agreement (96%) in terms of the usefulness of the Home from Hospital service, with less than 2% suggesting this was not a useful proposal.



4.3.2 Other Specialist Services

Respondents were asked whether they could think of any other specialist services that would make a difference to the health and well-being of older people in Barnet with the most frequent comments shown in the table below.

| Can you think of any other kinds of specialist service that you believe would make a difference to the health and well-being of older people in Barnet? (Base: 80) | | |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Escorts to medical appointments | 9 | 11.3 |
| Home care help | 9 | 11.3 |
| Befriending service | 9 | 11.3 |
| Help with shopping | 7 | 8.8 |
| Health visits | 7 | 8.8 |
| Home adaptations | 6 | 7.5 |
| Financial advice | 5 | 6.3 |
| Physio service | 5 | 6.3 |
| Nail cutting | 5 | 6.3 |
| Cleaning service/housework | 4 | 5.0 |

4.3.3 Impact of the Proposed Model

Respondents were asked if they felt the proposed model would have a negative impact on various groups within the community. At least 73% felt this model would not have a negative impact any of the community groups mentioned in this question.

| Do you think that these practical support services would have a negative impact on any of the groups below? (Base no in brackets) | | | |
|--|-----------|------------|---------------------|
| Response | Yes | No | Don't Know / Unsure |
| People from ethnic minority backgrounds | 8.1 (21) | 79.5 (205) | 12.4 (32) |
| People with disabilities | 11.0 (28) | 80.4 (205) | 8.6 (22) |
| People who are bisexual, homosexual or transsexual | 4.0 (10) | 73.3 (184) | 22.7 (57) |
| Men | 5.6 (14) | 83.5 (207) | 10.9 (27) |
| Women | 7.6 (19) | 84.9 (213) | 7.6 (19) |
| People with particular beliefs | 7.8 (20) | 78.1 (200) | 14.1 (36) |
| People with a low income | 10.7 (27) | 80.2 (203) | 9.1 (23) |

4.3.4 Improving Negative Impacts

The 22 respondents who had identified potential negative impacts for specific user groups were asked for ideas on how this issue could be improved, of which 36% said that any costs must be affordable and 22% stressed that services must be appropriate to cultural backgrounds and beliefs. Any comment mentioned by more than 1 respondent is shown in the table below.

| If you think there will be a negative impact on any of the groups above, do you have any ideas about what could be done to improve this? (Base: 22) | | |
|---|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Any costs involved must be affordable | 8 | 36.4 |
| Services must be appropriate to cultural backgrounds/beliefs | 5 | 22.7 |
| Ensure people feel safe when receiving in-home services | 4 | 18.2 |

4.3.5 Any other comments

Finally on the questions about model 3, respondents were asked if they had any other comments about this proposed model. In total 38 out of the 271 respondents made a comment on this question. Any comment mentioned by more than 1 respondent is shown in the table below.

| Do you have any other comments about this proposed model? (Base: 38) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| There will be a cost to pay | 8 | 21.1 |
| People would remain independent with this model | 5 | 13.2 |
| Support should be sustainable | 4 | 10.5 |
| Vetting/CRB checks are required for service staff | 3 | 7.9 |

| | | |
|--|---|-----|
| This model could be integrated with Neighbourhood Model | 2 | 5.3 |
| The model is already provided | 2 | 5.3 |
| Care & Repair service would be a financial drain on the model | 2 | 5.3 |
| Trained, professional staff should provide this service | 2 | 5.3 |
| Inspection to be carried out after repairs | 2 | 5.3 |
| Provide information of practical support in range of languages | 2 | 5.3 |

4.4 Model 4: Care and Activity Model, Day Opportunities for Older People with Extra Need for Support

This covers day centre services catering for the most frail, those with significant personal care needs, with complex needs, and for those with dementia. Whilst there is an expectation that all services welcome people with dementia, and people from ethnic minority groups; in the past there has been a case for separate provision for those with high levels of dementia (including those under 65 years old) and specialist provision for some individuals from the Asian community.

The Council already commissions these kinds of services (they include the day centres run by Fremantle Trust and the Marillac Centre run by the Barnet Alzheimer's Society) but they propose to provide fewer but better quality places in future. At present, the services are not geared to the needs of individual people as well as they should be. The council want to make sure that they are attractive to the people who most need them – and make a real difference in preventing residential care admissions where this is not the right solution for people.

Currently the Council funds these services directly but in the future the majority of this funding will be from individuals using their Personal Budgets.

The key features are as follows:

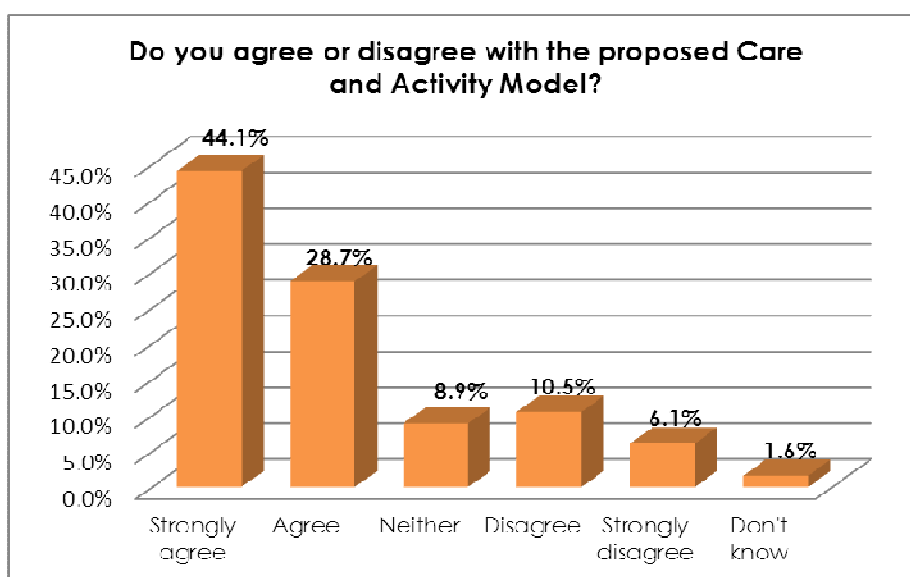
- Targeted at those with high needs in line with London Borough of Barnet Fair Access to Care (FACS²) eligibility criteria for social care
- Aimed at supporting people who are at high risk of admission to residential or nursing care homes, or at risk of frequent hospital episodes
- Provision of respite for carers, and carers support circle
- Flexible sessional attendance – i.e. full day, AM or PM, plus week-end cover
- Providing on-going support for as long as it is needed
- An 'enabling' approach from a core team of carers and volunteers, to support people to do things themselves, instead of doing it for them

4.4.1 Agreement of the Model

Respondents were asked to state to what extent they agreed or disagreed with the proposed model 4's usefulness and 73% agreed to some extent, with 17% in disagreement.

² Fair Access to Care Services (FACS) is the system used by all social services departments to work out whether someone qualifies for social care support. In Barnet, if someone's needs are shown to be 'critical' or 'substantial' under FACS criteria, they will qualify for support from the Council.

From the 271 respondents to the questionnaire, 247 gave an answer to this question.



4.4.2 Day Centre Activities for those with High Needs

Respondents were asked if they felt there were any types of day centre activities that are important for people with high needs and more than a fifth mentioned the following activities: exercise/sports classes (30%), day trips (26%), nail care (23%), hairdressing (23%), and cultural/religious activities (21%).

What type of day centre activities (such as individual or small group activities, interest groups, outings, hairdressing, nail care etc) do you think are important for people with high needs? (Base: 129)

| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
|---------------------------------|--------|----------------|
| Exercise / sports classes | 39 | 30.2 |
| Day trips | 34 | 26.4 |
| Nail care | 30 | 23.3 |
| Hairdressing | 29 | 22.5 |
| Cultural / religious activities | 27 | 20.9 |
| Art based activities | 17 | 13.2 |
| Socialising | 15 | 11.6 |
| Chiropody | 12 | 9.3 |
| Help with core needs | 11 | 8.5 |
| Lunch clubs | 11 | 8.5 |
| Befriending | 10 | 7.8 |

4.4.3 Impact of the Proposed Model

Being consistent with the previous three proposed models, respondents were asked if this proposed model would have a negative impact on any of the various community groups and although the majority said no, more than a fifth suggested that it could have a negative impact on the following groups: people with disabilities (20%), People with particular beliefs (23%), people with a low income (23%) and people from ethnic minority backgrounds (24%).

| Do you think that the proposed Care and Activity Model would have a <u>negative</u> impact on any of the groups below? (Base no in brackets) | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Response | Yes | No | Don't Know / Unsure |
| People from ethnic minority backgrounds | 24.3% (61) | 66.1% (166) | 9.6% (24) |
| People with disabilities | 20.0% (50) | 70.8% (177) | 9.2% (23) |
| People who are bisexual, homosexual or transsexual | 5.7% (14) | 66.1% (162) | 28.2% (69) |
| Men | 9.7% (24) | 76.1% (188) | 14.2% (35) |
| Women | 14.7% (36) | 75.9% (186) | 9.4% (23) |
| People with particular beliefs | 22.8% (56) | 66.3% (163) | 11.0% (27) |
| People with a low income | 22.9% (56) | 69.0% (169) | 8.2% (20) |

4.4.4 Improving Negative Impacts

Respondents who had identified potential negative impacts for specific user groups were asked for ideas on how this issue could be improved. 17 respondents provided an answer to this field, 254 did not.

Of the 17 respondents who suggested an idea, 82% said that there is a need to educate people as to what services are available and 18% said there is a need to work more closely with the voluntary sector.

| If you think there will be a negative impact on any of the groups above, do you have any ideas about what could be done to improve this? (Base: 17) | | |
|---|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Educate people as to what services are available | 14 | 82.4 |
| Work more closely with the voluntary sector | 3 | 17.6 |

4.4.5 Any other comments

Respondents were asked if they had any other comments on the fourth model and 42 out of 271 respondents made a comment. The following table shows the most frequently mentioned comments.

| Do you have any other comments about this proposed model? (Base: 42) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| The model targets only a small group of people | 7 | 16.7 |
| Non-provision of cultural/religious services may lead to isolation | 4 | 9.5 |
| Maintain provision of day care centre | 4 | 9.5 |
| Day centres reduce isolation and depression | 3 | 7.1 |
| Care workers must be highly trained | 3 | 7.1 |
| Reliable assessment of level of needs is required | 3 | 7.1 |

4.5 General Questions

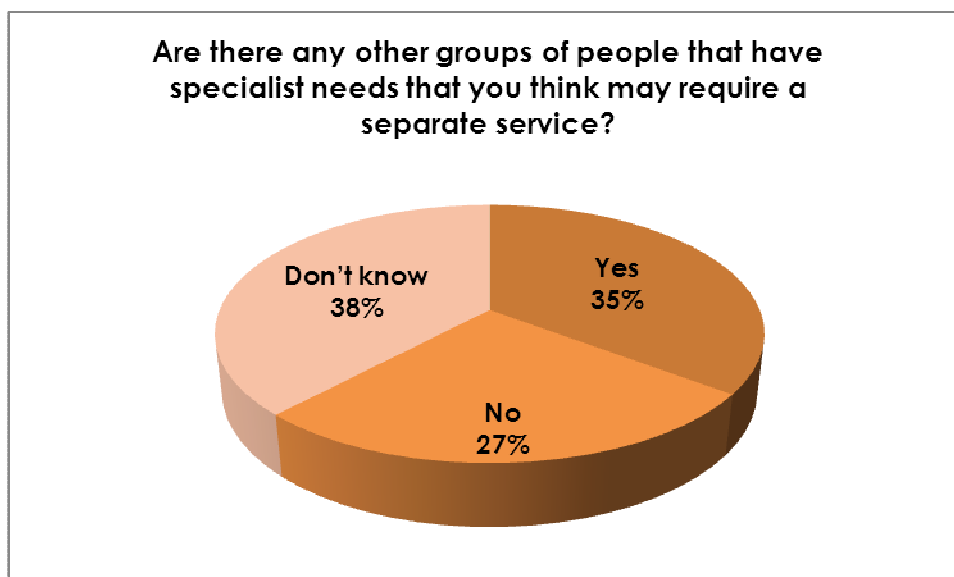
In the last section of the questionnaire respondents were asked four general questions around older people's needs and services and to prioritise the models.

4.5.1 Separate Services

Three groups of people with specialist needs were identified and respondents were asked if they believe if it is important to provide separate services to these specific groups and 60% or more said that the separate services are important in regards all three community groups. Older people from black and ethnic minorities were considered the least important group (29%).

| Please give your opinion about whether separate services are important for each of the groups listed below. (Base no in brackets) | | | |
|---|------------|-----------|---------------------|
| Response | Yes | No | Don't Know / Unsure |
| Older people with dementia | 81.5 (211) | 12.0 (31) | 6.6 (17) |
| Older people from black and ethnic minorities | 60.1 (152) | 29.2 (74) | 10.7 (27) |
| Older people with chronic illness / disabilities | 71.1 (182) | 21.1 (54) | 7.8 (20) |

Respondents were then asked to think about any other groups that they felt may require a separate service and 35% said there were other groups that may require a specialist service. More than a quarter (27%) said no and 38% did not know.



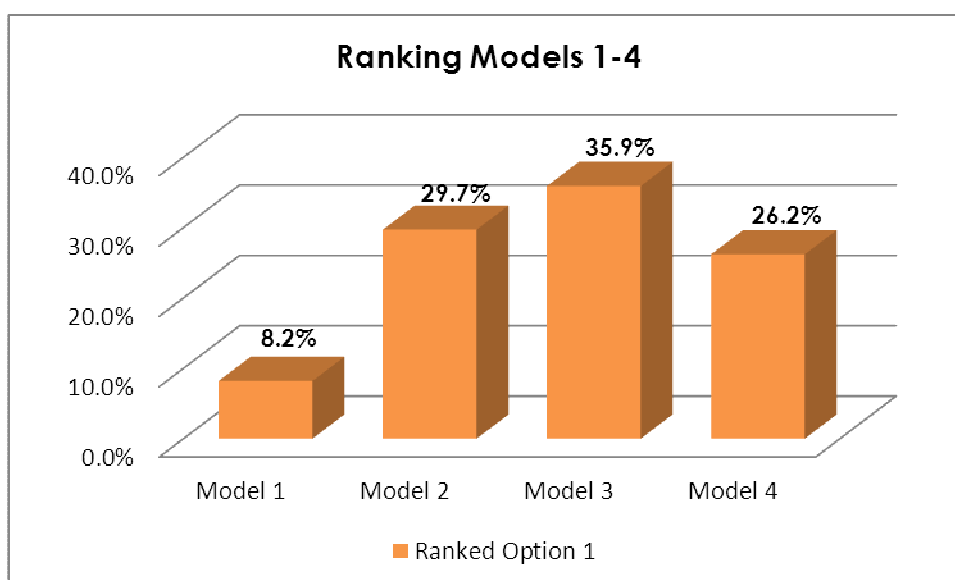
Those that said yes gave the following suggestions, with mental health featuring in 44% of responses.

| Are there any other groups of people that have specialist needs that you think may require a separate service? (Base:) | | |
|---|---------------|-----------------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| People with mental health issues | 20 | 43.5 |
| Women | 13 | 28.3 |
| People with mobility problems | 5 | 10.9 |
| People with learning difficulties | 4 | 8.7 |
| Older people who are lonely | 3 | 6.5 |
| People with hearing difficulties | 3 | 6.5 |
| People with eyesight problems | 2 | 4.3 |
| Epileptic people | 1 | 2.2 |
| People with a history of violence | 1 | 2.2 |
| Bereaved people | 1 | 2.2 |
| People in debt | 1 | 2.2 |

4.5.2 Service Prioritisation

Respondents were asked to rank the four proposed models in terms of perceived suitability and the following graph shows that model 3 was ranked number 1 by the most number of respondents (36%), closely followed by model 2 which was ranked number 1 by 31% of respondents. Model 4 was ranked as a top priority by 27% and just 9% ranked model 1 as their first choice.

In total 195 out of 271 answered this question.



103 respondents gave a justification for how they had prioritised the four proposed models and the most frequent answers are shown in the table below.

| Please give a short statement outlining the reasons for your choices. (Base: 103) | | |
|---|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Would be most beneficial to my current situation | 27 | 26.2 |
| Practical support is a necessity to provide independence | 21 | 20.4 |
| Important to reduce isolation | 15 | 14.6 |
| The most support is required for the most vulnerable person | 15 | 14.6 |
| Services should help older people stay independent/self-sufficient | 14 | 13.6 |
| Important to provide respite for people/families providing care | 9 | 8.7 |
| This would provide most help to the greater number of people | 6 | 5.7 |
| Everyone should try and plan for later | 5 | 4.9 |

4.5.3 Final Suggested Improvements

Finally, respondents were asked if they could think of any other ways that the council and service providers could improve days services for older people and comments were spread across a whole range of issues; the most frequent of which can be seen in the table below.

| Are there any other ways that you think the council and service providers could improve day services for older people? (Base: 106) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| Response | Number | Percentage (%) |
| Fund existing voluntary services/charities | 17 | 16.0 |
| Provide and maintain funds | 15 | 14.2 |
| Maintain/increase amount of day care centres | 15 | 14.2 |

| | | |
|--|----|------|
| Improve transport facilities for old people | 14 | 13.2 |
| Simply forms/questionnaires | 10 | 9.4 |
| More advertising/provide information of services available | 9 | 8.5 |
| Information should be provided in a variety of languages/formats | 9 | 8.5 |
| Make regular contact with older people | 8 | 7.5 |
| Recognise individual needs | 7 | 6.6 |
| Wider range of day centre activities | 6 | 5.7 |

Appendix 3 B - Results of Age UK Barnet's internal consultation

Age UK Barnet has carried out its own consultation in relation to the Council's proposals. As the questions were changed from that of the council's these could not be analysed in the same way as the others and are shown separately below. It should be noted that the questions and responses received are very specific to services being provided by Age UK Barnet. 191 questionnaires were completed by Age UK service users.

Age UK Barnet - Internal consultation

Many clients found the Barnet consultation document difficult to complete. We therefore asked them to complete a briefer and simpler questionnaire designed by us.

Methodology

Presentations on the consultation document were made each day at both day centres for a period of one week, together with a question and answer session. Clients were invited to complete either the Barnet Council questionnaire or our questionnaire. Staff were available to scribe for clients who needed support. Drop in clients were also invited to complete questionnaires.

191 questionnaires were completed. In addition, oral feedback was collated by staff from a number of clients and their carers. The oral feedback from clients followed largely the written responses in these questionnaires. The oral feedback from carers was largely negative. Carers expressed concern about 1) being forced to give up work in order to care for older people; 2) being unable to afford levels of care required if day centres are withdrawn; and 3) concerns about physical and mental health of older people.

Services used

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Day Centre | 139 |
| Exercise classes | 66 |
| Transport | 43 |
| Classes (art/computer/bridge etc) | 21 |
| Handyperson | 9 |
| Information & advice | 4 |
| Volunteering opportunities | 4 |
| Outings | 3 |
| Hearing aid clinic | 2 |
| Hairdresser | 2 |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Nail cutting | 2 |
| Chiropody | 1 |
| Carer support | 1 |

It should be noted that it is likely that the cross-use of services is under-represented by these figures. For example, we know that 80% of our clients rely on transport for access to the day centres. In addition, comments refer to nail cutting/ computers etc in larger numbers than shown.

Barnet Council wants to stop funding organisations like Ann Owens Centre/ Meritage Centre, which means that day centres will not receive funding and may close. What will this mean to you?

A number of words or phrases recurred, as did various concerns. These are summarised below

| | |
|--|----|
| Loss of contact with friends, loss of companionship or company | 61 |
| Loneliness/isolation/ live alone | 52 |
| Loss of exercise opportunity | 52 |
| I will have to stay at home/ housebound | 44 |
| Concerns re self-care/ independent living/ health | 29 |
| Depression/ unhappiness/ upset | 23 |
| Loss of hot meal/ nutritional support | 21 |
| Chatting/ socialising | 20 |
| Loss of activities/ stimulation/ recreation | 16 |
| Day centre is a "lifeline" | 13 |
| Loss of practical support (I&A, hairdressing, nail-cutting, hearing aid clinic, chiropody) | 8 |
| "Nowhere to go" | 7 |
| Concerns re costs and charges | 6 |
| Concern about lack of availability of local facilities/ premises | 5 |
| Concern about carer's ability to cope | 5 |
| Boredom | 1 |

Most striking in these figures are the high numbers of older people who explicitly used the words loneliness and isolation. Earlier research by Age UK Barnet and Middlesex University showed that these words are strongly taboo in this age group; acknowledging this openly in writing is therefore extremely significant. Secondly, the proportion of people who stated that they will be housebound if day centres, which provide all day care and transport, are closed (23%) is notable. Illustrative comments are reproduced below:

- "I will have to stay at home. No friends, no communication."
- "If I didn't attend the day centre I would be at home on my own. I am wheelchair bound and cannot walk on my own. At least at the day centre there are people to talk to and I can participate in exercise etc and there are staff available all day to help me."
- "No company. No food, who would provide this? It would be very difficult to look after ourselves."
- "This will mean that I will be completely isolated. My quality of life will be non-existent which will lead me to be completely unhappy. I am unable to get around by myself so I would be housebound. I probably wouldn't get out of bed."

- “Being confined to home 7 days a week with no respite.”
- “The day centres are a lifeline for us elderly people. We meet our friends, talk, discuss various things, laugh, we give birthday Christmas cards, buy cakes for our day, we keep active, we have talks, visiting choirs, tea dances, on Thursday we have Tai Chi, some raffles. We have transport to and from the centres. It’s something to look forward to. If I don’t have Thursday out it means there is nothing, everyday the same.”
- “Not being able to see old friends.”
- “I will have nowhere to go on Thursdays which may cause disruption at home with my landlady who looks forward to a few free days.”
- “The loss of a valuable exercise class and also meeting and making friends. I have arthritis and Tai Chi helps keep me mobile and also I look forward to seeing friends. It is the highspot of my week. There are no suitable church halls to provide all the activities provided by the Meritage Centre.”
- “Closure of these services will be a great blow to my motivation in living healthy, useful and as normal a life as possible.”
- “I will be very upset and lonely without the centre. We all meet every week and we’ve become like a family”.
- “Isolation to the elderly. Loneliness, all friends would disappear. No hot food, my only meal of the day.”
- “My health would regress eg balance, memory loss. In the long term it would be more costly if my health deteriorates.”
- “Meeting people. Otherwise indoors all day as I am blind.”
- “Personally, this a lifeline to keep me mobile after a broken hip.”
- “I would be very upset to lose contact with new friends of my age and also lose practical help from staff at the centre. It is really good to have space with proper toilet facilities and a kitchen.”
- “Isolation, as I suffer from depression. This will get worse. I do not make myself meals, so I will either eat rubbish or go hungry. I have had a small stroke and rely on the people at the centre, both staff and clients, for support.”
- “I will be isolated in my home as I love alone and can only walk a short distance. I will miss my friends and contact with the outside world. It is hard to even think about.”

Comments from volunteers

- “Much more isolated at home. Coming and doing volunteering at the Meritage Centre keeps me fit and energetic.”
- “Firstly, if the centres close I will lose my job which will mean I will be stuck in my house, climbing the walls or watching rubbish TV. Not a good thing.”

Comments from carers

- “The carer person will lose the only free time she has when U is at the Owens Centre. This gives her time to breathe and do something for herself before U comes back from the Centre.

Do you think this should happen?

| | |
|--|-----|
| No | 183 |
| Blank | 6 |
| Yes | 0 |
| No, unless there is another solution that can be met | 1 |
| I don’t think they should stop the transport | 1 |

They want to replace all the current organisations supplying services with one organisation. Do you think this is a good idea?

| | |
|-------|-----|
| No | 138 |
| Yes | 25 |
| Maybe | 12 |
| Blank | 16 |

Some people added comments to their answer. Inclusion was important to those supportive of the idea:

- “A good idea if everyone benefits” “Yes, everyone work jointly under one scheme”
- “One organisation is a good idea as long as everyone is allowed to participate in it”.

Some caveated this:

- “This would be fine it includes everyone and also transport was provided” was a sentiment expressed by 5 people, some of whom also added lunch, Tai Chi, or continuation of day centres, to the essential list.

One respondent saw this as a way of cutting costs:

- “If that would save money by eliminating overlapping services then, yes, it is a good idea.”

The “maybes” were concerned about outcomes

- “It all depends on the services they offer”.
- “It depends on how the organisation is run.”
- “I think Age UK [Barnet] should continue to be responsible for supplying services.”
- “Only if it is the same principle as it is now and the older people are thought of”

Of those opposed to the idea, objections fell into a number of areas.

1. Loss of local or other expertise (eg dementia care, BME issues), flexibility and diversity

- “No, I believe it would be a loss of specialty in any which field. You can’t expect form one organisation to be an expert in every field.”
- “No, loss of flexibility and variety in provision.”
- “This is bound to mean a loss of diversity and less convenient locations which for older people will mean complete loss of this provision for them.”
- “No, variety of choice is essential.”
- “No. Smaller organisations specialise in their area, they know the needs of the groups and provide it. If one big organisation takes over, all that personal attention to detail will be lost.”
- “No, this will result in insufficient facilities and incompetency.” “No. There might be less choice.”

2. Concern about a single organisation being too impersonal and lack of signposting

- “The current situation works well and gives a good community effect. One large organisation becomes too impersonal and people might not attend.”
- “It will be complete chaos, as no-one will be sure which service they require and how will they get there without transport.”
- “Large organisations often become bureaucratic. Smaller ones are intimate.”
- “No, should not happen as the people are all known that run the centre and are trusted by me.”

3. Concerns that this will increase costs

- “No. It works really well as it is. Changing it will cost a lot of money.”

4. Concerns about current voluntary sector groups ability to work together

- “No, too much opposition to each other ie who does certain runs. The shorter one? Too many chiefs (not enough Indians).

They want to put money into services like:

- Providing more accessible Advice and Information relevant to the older population**
- Activities held in local community venues like church halls and libraries. There is currently no transport provision included in the proposals.**
- Home from Hospital Service**
- Handyperson Scheme**

Do you think this is sensible?

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| a. Information and Advice | |
| Yes | 34 |
| No | 85 |
| Blank | 67 |
| Maybe | 5 |
| b. Neighbourhood activities | |
| Yes | 22 |
| No | 102 |
| Blank | 62 |
| Maybe | 5 |
| c. Home from Hospital Service | |
| Yes | 35 |
| No | 82 |
| Blank | 66 |
| Maybe | 8 |
| d. Handyperson Scheme | |
| Yes | 44 |
| No | 75 |
| Blank | 66 |
| Maybe | 8 |

The comments made on this section throw some light on these figures. The impression is given that a number of people are not willing to support alternative services, some of which are already in place and very popular, because they see it as a choice between these services and supporting day centres, which are their first priority, as the most important source of practical support they receive.

For example:

- “No, because you are expanding by contracting major services. Not sensible at all.”
- “All these proposals are already catered for at this centre.”
- “No, it will in no way compensate for what is lost. It may save money in the short term but long term it will cost more for old people deprived of companionship, will lapse into depression, possible senility and hospitalisation.”
- “The above now operate at the Ann Owen including transport for disabled elderly, plus lunch club. Why waste money?”
- “I certainly do not agree with the above proposals. The people at the Day Centre are qualified and my doctor recommended Barnet Age Concern was the best place.”

- “No, it is destroying one of the joys of current provisions for the elderly.”

This was also true of people who supported the plans:

- “As long as other people don’t suffer at being housebound without daycentre.”
- “All well in theory but what about the people who already use day services. You are taking from us to add to the above.”
- “It is sensible provided that those services are properly financed and adequately staffed.”
- “Yes, providing transport can be provided” “They are wonderful services, but I like coming to the same place where I know people.”

Crucial to rejection of the neighbourhood model is concern about transport/access and to a lesser extent about availability of hot food.

- “No, because people like me wouldn’t be able to afford transport, and if a packed lunch was suggested I couldn’t shop or make one up for myself.”
- “No, how would we get there without transport?”
- “If no transport is provided that would be very difficult to get there as taxis are expensive.”

For some, separation from old friends through diversion to new services was a key concern:

- “No. How would we be able to get to these different venues. We would lose all our friends. Would lunch be provided? If not how would we be able to do this ourselves?”
- “No, because it would be the same problem no transport, no friends that you have met at the day centre. Plus it would mean no food and paying for own transport.”

Others expressed concern about the availability, and cost, of suitable community premises:

- “You are closing libraries anyway.”
- “No. How can I access public transport to these venues? I am in a wheelchair. What good is providing more information and advice if there is no place to go?”
- “Unless transport is provided people cannot get to places, especially partially disabled. Some religious people may object to entering a different religion’s building.”
- “There is no space in the library or church hall (Hendon). Space is important for Tai Chi, dancing, eating and for other activities. Why not provide transport for those whom cannot use their travel passes...Of course it is sensible but those services already exist in the Meritage Centre with a very good standard. Why spend more money on modernisation and renting new premises when really we do not want you to spend more of our tax money unnecessarily.”
- “No, you don’t need to use church halls and libraries when you have a dedicated centre.”
- “No, they are already closing libraries and church halls are not purpose built for this community. Advice and information can be available at current centres. Home from Hospital is a separate issue. Handyperson scheme can be implemented without wasting money closing a purpose built building.”
- “Transport is key to many people. Church halls and libraries don’t have the intimacy of atmosphere found in the day centre.”

For a few their comments were directed towards political priorities within the Council

and issues of trust:

- “Disabled people should get what they deserve – so should older people. If the Council wants it can support all the needy groups. This is their responsibility.”
- “I & A – we already have that. Church halls and libraries – where are they? No transport provision – which means the elderly will once again be isolated in their own homes. Home from Hospital – this should be provided by the NHS. Handyperson - this is already provided very well by Age UK Barnet. If the system ain't broke, don't interfere! We want friendly local folk – not faceless beurocratic [sic] councillors who are hellbent on selling off the boroughs assets and services to the detriment of residents.”
- “These are all proposals. How are these ideas going to be implemented, who will be overseeing the running of these services. If it is going to be a company whose main aim is to be profitable, I can see this being a disaster.”
- “No because nothing of the above ever happens and the places still close.”

They argue that more of the population would benefit from this than the current emphasis on day centres. Would you be likely to take advantage of any of the services mentioned above? If your answer is yes, which ones would you use?

| | |
|-----------------------------|----|
| a. I & A | |
| Yes | 15 |
| No | 95 |
| Blank | 96 |
| Maybe | 7 |
| b. Neighbourhood activities | |
| Yes | 18 |
| No | 72 |
| Blank | 96 |
| Maybe | 6 |
| c. Home from Hospital | |
| Yes | 17 |
| No | 73 |
| Blank | 96 |
| No | 7 |
| d. Handyperson Scheme | |
| Yes | 32 |
| No | 57 |
| Blank | 96 |
| Maybe | 6 |

The comments fell broadly into the same areas as the previous question, with respondents prioritising day services, or seeing these services as a useful adjunct to day centres rather than as a replacement. Examples of comments from people who would use the proposed service models:

- “I would be interested in all, especially a and d, but would love to have it added to the current service.”
- “Benefits advice and handyperson.”
- “All of them but our leisure services are just as important. Maybe we would not need so much of a-b-c-d.”
- “Prefer day centres – nothing like them.”

From those who were against the proposed models of service, again transport and a preference for the day centre model were the most frequent reasons given:

- “None – Ann Owen within walking distance and if no transport provided I could not attend.”
- “I am happy with day centres. I cannot see how the ideas being put forward are going to help me or others like me. I believe there should be more centres like Ann Owens Centre rather than closing them down.”
- “Day centres are too important to lose. Often it is the only outing of the week for the elderly. It will mean isolation for many.”
- “I need the day centre not the other activities without transport. I need transport to get from A-Z”
- “The services above are already available. Day centres for the most vulnerable in society are a necessity. They should be increased, not cut and more funding should be available for the less fortunate.”
- “I think less people would benefit purely on the fact that transport will be taken away. How many elderly people run their own cars, or can afford the upkeep/ privilege of a car. The list of proposed services appears so meagre & detrimental, so poorly thought out, putting people’s needs and their dignity below the requirement to save such a small amount of the council tax that may be saved.”

Some were clear about identifying the attributes of day centre care which they felt were particularly helpful, other than transport:

- “Day centres are essential – they give a club-like feel, provide mental and physical stimulation of different kinds as well as advice. There is a variety of staff that they can interact with and spot any difficulties they may have.”
- “Only Keep Fit. Please, Age Concern [Age UK Barnet] is perfect. Please do not change it.”

One last comment voices some of the anger and despondency which we have had expressed to us orally by clients anxious about the future:

- “What point is there in living longer, if there is no social life, or friends to meet? How about a toxic pill for us all at a certain age – would that solve the problem?”

Appendix 3C - ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS ON THE OLDER ADULTS DAY SERVICES MODEL

1. Meetings with Representative Organisations / Boards

March 2011- Older Adults Partnership Board (OAPB) - draft proposals introduced to OAPB.

20 July 2011 – Barnet Older Adults Assembly (BOPA) Committee meeting – Sub group set up to proceed with the preparation of the proposals for Day Opportunities for Older people (DOFOP)

19th October 2011 - DOFOP Providers’ meeting – Re-drafted consultation report discussed with a group of contracted providers

10 November 2011- DOFOP Advisory Group meeting - initial meeting with users (and some providers). A separate group to Providers is being set up as Service Users would be asked to sit on the interview panel for new providers and monitor the new contract.

31 January 2012 – OAPB meeting - Draft consultation document and planned consultation activities discussed.

21 February 2012 - Older Adults Network and BME Network meetings – Initial discussions about transition planning and also Q&As published

February 2012- All contracted providers are notified that 23% cut will apply from 1 October 2012

11 April 2012 - DOFOP Providers' Meeting –

- Providers asked to nominate more users to the Advisory Group;
- 23% cut will be made to all contractors' funding from 1st October 2012 and all the contracts will be terminated by 31 March 2012.
- Providers warn that services may need to start winding down from October.
- All Providers present agreed that the need to work together to put forward a viable 'offer' to the council in response to its proposals which could be put to Cabinet.

17 April 2012 – Attendance at a BOPA conference – a simplified copy of the consultation document was circulated and explained. Copies of the questionnaires were distributed to the 100+ attendees.

18 April 2012 – Locality meeting - presentation of easy-read version of the consultation document. This was distributed to all localities.

25 April 2012 – Meeting with BOPA representatives – Discussions on joint meetings between Providers and representative groups as well as integration of DOFOP consultation with other services.

1st May 2012 - Older Adults Network meeting – Discussion about low response to consultation to date and asking Network members to encourage their clients to complete questionnaires led to complaints about process: Questionnaire very difficult to fill in / too long; website crash during completion, older people do not use web; Providers can't afford to print copies of documents, photocopying expensive; no public meetings. General consensus that Council has unreasonably relied on vol orgs to 'do the council's job' in consulting.

1 May 2012 – OAPB meeting – representatives from Network asks for an extension of the consultation period to address concerns raised.

ASCH Senior Management Team's decision made to extend the consultation period for a further 3 weeks to 15 June 2012

9 May 2012- DOFOP Providers' meeting –

- Information about pilot project – to be run by BCIL looking at the use of personal budgets for day ops as well as for those not entitled to a personal budget.
- Users' survey – Providers to rank their current users as to the probability of immediate requirements for new or additional statutory social care or health interventions.
- Advocacy in Barnet commissioned to attend meetings and help people complete the form, including for clients with Alzheimers.

30 May 2012 – Advisory Group meeting – meeting with service users. Most of the meeting was made up of listening and allaying concerns about the funding cuts and the potential eventual demise of the organisations they have been using or volunteering with for a long time. Advisory Group informed that they would be asked to sit on the interview panel for new providers as well as a monitoring group of the new contract.

11 June 2012 – DOFOP Providers' workshop to discuss Neighbourhood model. Set up in groups, Providers constructed their vision of the physical aspects (ie size, location, human and other resources) to run the Neighbourhood model and the services that could be provided. Providers are making a formal proposal to the council based on these discussions on how local Providers can deliver Neighbourhood (and other) services.

15 June – BOPA meeting with council officers, Members and Partnership co-chairs – BOPA's views on the council's proposals and a request for an integrated approach in future.

2. Meetings with Individual Organisations, their volunteers, users and carers

6 July 2011 - Barnet Asian Older People's Association (BAOPA) and Barnet African Caribbean Association - Meeting with representatives from BAOPA and BACA regarding commissioning separate services for BME communities

Meetings at the Multicultural Centre 30th March (approx 120 participants from BAOPA and BACA) **and 15th May 2012** (7 BACA users):

- Strong support for specialist services for BME communities due to cultural, religious and language needs.
- Later Life Planners: More information good but requires language skills.
- Neighbourhoods: Saw their community groups as their neighbourhood support but acknowledgement lack of transport as isolating factors
- Practical support: very useful but need for language skills and cultural sensitivities
- Care and Activity Centres– Rosa Freedman Asian Unit seen as useful.

Meeting with volunteers – 14 May 2012 – attended by 12 people.

- Future day opportunities involved the bringing together of current local

voluntary organisations (who already provided to some extent the proposed services) to run a wide range of preventative services.

- Staff and volunteers would be retained - vital as the proposals relied heavily on the use of volunteers and the value of local knowledge.
- The need for better information (in particular more written information)
- More localised services, practical support and day care for the most frail; Specialised services for those with dementia was supported. were strongly supported and specialist support for the current generation of BME elders was also supported.

Meeting with Alzheimer's society - 17 May 2012 - 40 people including volunteers, service users, carers and officers. Firm belief that there was a need for a specialist service for people with dementia.

- LLP: Provision of information vital; Model welcomed – written information to people in their homes was seen as particularly valuable
- Neighbourhood: localised services was seen as likely to be useful for older people in the borough but perhaps less relevant for people with dementia – who had their own community in the Alzheimer's Society.
- Need to identify premises; volunteers would need a base.
- Practical Support Services were seen as valuable for all older people in the borough
- Care and Activity Centres - model participants saw as most closely identified with the service they received via the Alzheimer's Society – particularly through the Marillac Centre. They wanted this service to continue.

Meeting at Kingsley Court – 22 May 2012 – approx 20 attendees.

Discussion with Sheltered Housing residents, majority of whom do not use current day services. Very little interest in consultation on new service provision as tenants see these being provided in their scheme.

Meeting with High Barnet Good Neighbours Scheme – 29 May 2012 -

Funding from council minor element of total and therefore will continue without it. Attempting to change existing services to fit into council's models is not viable for this organisation.

Meetings at Fremantle Day Centres - Five meetings held overall with approximately 75 users and carers.

- Hostility to using personal budgets to fund day support; won't be enough to fund services they enjoyed, including transport and personal care costs. Frail older people couldn't organise services for themselves and use of brokers seen as an extra layer of bureaucracy involving additional costs to the Council
- When prompted, most people said that Models 1 and 3 offered good services and should be supported.
- Most were interested in Model 4 and suggested a number of improvements:
 - Not in favour of more 'home' based activities as they have chosen current services which takes them out of their homes, in particular for

carers to have a break.

- Provision of transport vital to access day opportunities.
- Asian service users at Rosa Freedman made it clear that they valued their unit where staff and other users understood their language and culture. Concerns users funding their attendance out of personal budgets.

3. How the Proposals have developed over the period of consultation

March – December 2011 - Initial Ideas stage:

The initial paper on reorganising Day Opportunities for Older People contained a number of ideas and strategies:

- Tier 1 – continuation of building based services for those at high risk
- Universal Open Access Services – well-advertised rolling programmes of events and short-term activities for large groups, eg health promotion, community safety
- An Enablement Model - short term intervention to restore a person's ability to remain at home, targeted at older people with dementia, those at risk of repeated strokes or falls and incorporating Home from Hospital and Handyman services.
- Potential Consortium Model - local voluntary providers to retain a large amount of on-going services. Initially there would need to be a lead provider who would subcontract elements of service to the other participating voluntary groups.
- A Neighbourhood Model – proposed as a standalone model or incorporated into any of the other models. The contracted provider would identify and train voluntary organisations/volunteers to befriend vulnerable older people in their neighbourhoods/homes. Another element in this model would be for the provider through neighbourhood contacts to offer information and advice to older people

During this period, it was envisaged that the consultation on Day Opportunities for Older People would be linked to the work being undertaken on the Ageing Well process.

Many elements of these initial ideas remain in the formal proposals that went out for consultation. However, the potential consortium model was not considered any further due to a lack of a co-ordinated approach by the current providers.

January – April 2012 – discussions on the consultation document:

The consultation document was re-structured following both internal discussions within the council and with the Older Adults Partnership Board and published in February 2012. The initial plan was to put out the consultation for Day Opportunities for Older people at the same time as Day to Day Transport but the two were later separated due to delays in the production of the latter.

Due to the length and complexity of the consultation document, a short summary was produced in April and widely distributed. This is attached in Appendix 2.

A more co-ordinated approach was reached in April 2012 when Providers have put forward a commitment to an offer to the council in response to its consultation proposals.

May – July 2012 – extension of the consultation period and development of proposals for Cabinet

A formal request from representative groups to extend the consultation period for a further 3 weeks was agreed. During this period, further attempts to reach individuals was made, for example sending the consultation document to faith groups and buildings and meetings with users and providers intensified.

In June 2012 two very useful meetings took place which has helped shape the proposals further and contained in this report. The first was a workshop to explore Providers' vision of the Neighbourhood model, the second a meeting organised by Barnet Older People's Assembly to discuss an integrated approach to the proposals and start to talk about some of the detailed issues that will have to be taken into account.

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| | |
|----------------|---|
| Meeting | Cabinet |
| Date | 17 July 2012 |
| Subject | Consultation on options for Council Tax localisation |
| Report of | Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance |
| Summary | <p>This report highlights the Government's proposal to replace Council Tax Benefit with localised Council Tax Support schemes. The funding of a local scheme is set at 90% of the current Council Tax Benefit expenditure. For the LB Barnet, this equates to a shortfall of £4.4m in 2013/14. This reform requires the council to design a new Council Tax Support scheme, undertake consultation, and adopt the scheme by 31 January 2013. The report recommends an extensive consultation approach to engage with residents, proposes a set of principles for the new scheme, and asks officers to complete comprehensive modelling and impact assessment.</p> |

| | |
|---|--|
| Officer Contributors | <p>Bill Murphy, Assistant Director for Customer Services and Libraries</p> <p>John Hooton, Assistant Director, Finance</p> <p>Rowena Gates, Revenues & Benefits Transition Team</p> <p>Tom Pike, Head of Performance</p> |
| Status (public or exempt) | Public |
| Wards Affected | All |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in | |
| Function of | Cabinet |
| Enclosures | <p>Appendix 1: Current Council Tax Benefit scheme.</p> <p>Appendix 2: Proposed approach to consultation.</p> <p>Appendix 3: Changes to Council Tax exemptions and</p> |

discounts

Contact for Further
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1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 To note the changes contained in the Local Government Finance Bill, which was introduced to Parliament in December 2011.
- 1.2 To note the Government's proposal to cease Council Tax Benefit, replacing the system with Council Tax Support, to be designed and operated by the local authority with an unringfenced grant of 90% of current Council Tax Benefit expenditure.
- 1.3 To agree a range of options that forms the basis of an extensive consultation programme.
- 1.4 To endorse a programme of communication, consultation and engagement as set out in this report, and delegate authority to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance to agree the detailed scope of the consultation and proceed accordingly.
- 1.5 To agree that a future meeting of Cabinet receive a report on the consultation findings, proposals for a local Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme, with relevant impact assessments and a proposed implementation plan.

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 None.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1. Central Government have committed to a programme of welfare reform, aiming to simplify the benefits systems, create the right incentives to get more people into work, protect the most vulnerable, and deliver fairness to tax payers and to those claiming benefits. The reform makes a number of changes, including revisions to housing benefits scheme, the introduction of a cap on the total amount of benefits that can be claimed, and simplifies the existing benefit and credit schemes through Universal Credit.
- 3.2. The welfare reform programme promotes localisation, recognising that local authorities are well placed to design support schemes for Council Tax in way which promotes work and supports the most vulnerable. This presents a welcome opportunity for the Council to consult on, and establish, a support scheme which is aligned with local priorities.
- 3.3. The reform package also gives local authorities funding and responsibility for designing and implementing a Social Fund, replacing Crisis Loans and

Community Care Grants currently administered by the Department for Work and Pensions. The design of the new scheme gives additional flexibility to the Council to support the most vulnerable, develop incentives and encourage individuals and communities to develop resilience and support one another.

- 3.4. Despite large cuts to local government funding and continuing economic uncertainty, Barnet Council is in a strong position, with a robust three year plan to meet savings requirements, a track record of delivery of savings, and clear strategic direction. This considered approach to budget and business planning has enabled the Council to take prudent and measured decisions, for example, creating headroom to invest in early intervention to secure future savings and improved outcomes for families and residents. This approach will also be used when designing a Council Tax Support scheme, aiming to achieve cost reduction in a way which supports local priorities and gives capacity to protect the most vulnerable.
- 3.5. The localised Council Tax Support scheme should be designed to support the objective to deliver 'better services with less money', making the best use of a reduced grant for Council Tax Support, modeling future costs and implications to provide a scheme which best meets the needs of Barnet residents and current Council Tax Benefit claimants, and ensure a stable Medium Term Financial Strategy.
- 3.6. The new scheme should support the priority of 'sharing opportunities, sharing responsibilities' by considering the impacts of the scheme on different demographic groups and mitigating adverse impacts where possible. Consultation and engagement with residents will be designed to consider alternative options, and to assess opportunities for the organisation to work with the third sector, local providers, and residents to support a new scheme. Additional data analysis and modeling will review the impacts and implications of welfare reform on groups in the borough, existing support mechanisms and whether additional actions are required to support the vulnerable and deliver local objectives.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) recognise that timetable for implementation of a Council Tax Support scheme is tight, especially as it coincides with the Government's plans for implementing:
 - Business rate retention
 - The move to a capped system of welfare payments (the Benefits Cap)
 - The proposed reduction of benefit for any working age registered social tenant
 - The roll-out of Universal Credit.

Consequently, the time available to conduct consultation, design options, and implement our local scheme is limited. If Barnet does not have its scheme in place by January 2013, the DCLG's default scheme will take effect. In its first year of operation the default scheme will be the current Council Tax Benefit scheme, which would mean that the 10% cut in funding would have to be absorbed by Barnet and the Greater London Authority. We are mitigating this risk by forming a well designed project plan and putting in place dedicated

project management, and will buy-in additional support where needed.

4.2 Additional financial risks will arise from:

- The increased complexity of financial planning that could result from growing pressure from the CTS scheme if funding reductions are not fully addressed
- Lower Council Tax collection rate and bad debts
- Higher administrative costs
- Potential growth in the number of claimants.

These issues are covered in more detail in Section 9.4. These impacts may be mitigated to varying degrees depending on the scheme adopted and this will be a consideration when evaluating the options.

4.3 The development and finalisation of any scheme adopted by Barnet must be compatible with various legal obligations.

Firstly, decisions taken by Cabinet need to be based on comprehensive consultation, to seek responses of residents and ensure that the final decision taken has due regard for the needs of local communities. To meet this requirement, a full communication and consultation programme will be developed, to engage with residents, claimants, organisations and other stakeholders and use this information before recommending a scheme.

Secondly, the proposed scheme must be supported by thorough equality impact assessment and due regard for equalities implications, and to ensure compliance with the Equality Act 2010. The Corporate Plan 2012 – 2013 sets out a commitment that major policies, functions and activities should be assessed for their equalities impacts. The communication and analysis activities should be used to assess potential impacts on different groups, evaluating impacts and considering mitigation. This will include engagement with representative groups of those with protected characteristics.

Thirdly, guidance from the DCLG recommends that the development of a local scheme has regard to the Child Poverty Act 2010, designing local tax reduction schemes in way which best meet local circumstances.

Fourthly, under the Housing Act 1996, homelessness legislation provides a safety net for families with children and vulnerable people who become homeless through no fault of their own. DCLG advise that local authorities consider how information about Council Tax reductions is made available to these households once they are secured accommodation, and have regard to vulnerable individuals for whom the local authority secures accommodation, or who are at risk of becoming homeless.

4.4 The IT system for operating the new scheme must be able to calculate the selected local scheme and must be implemented in time. The new scheme may bring increased administrative burdens and risk of fraud. We will be engaging with our existing supplier regarding system options to mitigate these risks.

4.6 Reputational risks will arise for the Revenues and Benefits Service if there is

reduction in speed and accuracy of processing claims or if Council Tax collection rates suffer as a result of implementing the new scheme. The design and implementation of the scheme will be managed in such a way as to minimise these risks. However, there will still be an impact of the 10% cut in Government funding for any working age claimants who are not protected. The risk is that this change is likely to result in an unfavourable perception of the new scheme for those of working age on lower incomes, and lead to an increase in customer contact, appeals and complaints and higher levels of bad debt. We will seek to mitigate this through an effective communications strategy. We will complete modelling of the anticipated impacts of changes, impacts and implications when considering how to best respond to welfare reform.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 The options under consideration for the proposed scheme (set out in section 9) are based on a set of policy objectives that support the Government's intention that pensioners should not be affected by this cut in spending and that there should be protection for other vulnerable groups.
- 5.2 The development of a proposal for a Council Tax Support scheme must incorporate a well-designed consultation and engagement programme which can identify and capture the views of our diverse communities. We will ensure that our consultation activities will enable us to understand the needs of Barnet's diverse communities.
- 5.3 The proposals will be assessed to ensure that due regard has been given to the public sector equality duty as enshrined in the Equality Act 2010 using the process set out in the Corporate Plan 2012-13. This fact-specific information will be presented for consideration by strategic decision makers.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 Currently, there are around 30,000 benefit claimants who receive help paying their Council Tax. Total spending on Council Tax Benefit in 2011/12 was £32.2m, which was matched by a Council Tax Benefit Grant of £32.2m.
- 6.2 Current indications from Government are that the initial funding will be set using a methodology that seeks to reflect the estimated cost of benefits for 2013/14, so that local authorities will not have to fully fund any growth in demand between now and implementation. However, once the funding is set it will be fixed and any in-year increase in demand will fall entirely on the Council, and this represents a significant new risk.
- 6.3 As the Council Tax collection authority, Barnet administers the benefits and receives the grant, which is shared with the Greater London Authority (GLA) in proportion to the GLA's share of the Council Tax. That share is currently Barnet 78.4%, GLA 21.6%. The new scheme will also have the effect of sharing the cost of the benefits and the funding pro-rata to Council Tax share.

- 6.4 Under the Government's proposals, Barnet's proportion of the grant will be cut by 10%. Allowing for changes in Council Tax rates and other parameters it is estimated that the funding gap to LBB will be £4.4m in 2013/14.
- 6.5 This report proposes a number of options for consultation in respect of a local scheme for Council Tax Support. The development of this scheme has the ability to close the funding gap set out in 6.4. The precise financial implications will be dependent on the options chosen, but indicative ranges of figures are set out in the tables in 9.8, these range from £1m deficit to £1.3m surplus.
- 6.6 There are risks associated with the position set out above. If take up increases by more than 5% to, say, 10%, the gap will increase by £1.3m. In terms of bad debt risk, the lower the discount offered, the greater the bad debt risk.
- 6.7 Costs will be incurred in respect of the software changes required to the existing IS system in order to operate the new support scheme, and will be determined by the extent of the changes necessary. We are also purchasing software to enable us to model various scheme options and are commissioning specialists to provide analytical services in respect of financial implications and the planning of scheme options. Specialist support will also be commissioned to support the consultation process and to provide legal advice on the writing of regulations of the new scheme.
- 6.8. An initial £84,000 in New Burdens funding has been given to Barnet and the DCLG has indicated that further grant may also be given to assist with one-off implementation costs, transition costs and the recurring costs for the first three years of operating the new system.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Section 33 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 abolishes Council Tax Benefit and support for Council Tax will not be included in the Universal Credit set up by Section 1 of that Act. The Local Government Bill makes provision for the localisation of Council Tax Support. The DCLG's Statement of Intent (published in May 2012) states that regulations will ensure that pensioners are not disadvantaged by the reform of Council Tax Benefit and also states that local authorities must have regard to their duties under the Equality Act 2010, as well as their duties in relation to disabilities, homelessness and child poverty. There is a requirement for an equalities impact assessment to consider the effect of the proposed local scheme on the classes of persons to be protected.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (RELEVANT SECTION FROM THE CONSTITUTION, KEY/NON-KEY DECISION)

- 8.1 The Local Government Finance Bill 2012, Section 8 (4), states that each authority must make a Council Tax reduction scheme no later than 31 January 2013.

- 8.2 The decision on the adoption of a Council Tax Support scheme is a decision for the full Council.

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

9.1 Summary

- 9.1.1 The council is required to design a local Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme, to take effect on 1 April 2013. This report highlights the current context and recommends opening a full consultation programme. It:
- Summarises the proposal to localise support for Council Tax
 - Proposes a set of principles to underpin a local scheme
 - Outlines the consultation and design activity required to develop a scheme, reporting back to Cabinet in December 2012.
- 9.1.2. The Government is proposing to abolish Council Tax Benefit (CTB) in 2013/14, with local authorities tasked to design and implement a local scheme. The objectives of this reform are to allow schemes to reflect local priorities, and to strengthen incentives to promote employment and growth.
- 9.1.3. Government funding available for a local scheme will be reduced by 10 per cent, creating a financial burden. For Barnet, this is anticipated to result in a shortfall of £4.4m in 2013/14 and could increase in future years, depending on demand and future increases in Council Tax.
- 9.1.4. The £4.4m shortfall in funding will need to be met through the design of the Council Tax Support scheme to avoid cuts to services or increased Council Tax bills for residents.
- 9.1.5. It is recommended that consultation is based upon a clear set of principles, offering incentives and protections to help deliver local priorities. The proposed principles are:
- A system based on fairness, with those with the ability to pay making a fair contribution
 - The scheme should incentivise work
 - Support for those in the most difficult circumstances
 - The most vulnerable should benefit from a level of protection
 - The scheme should be transparent and accessible.
- 9.1.6 It is proposed that the consultation is based upon a package of options, asking residents and stakeholders for their views on different options and taking this into account when proposing a recommended scheme:
- Removal of current discounts and exemptions such as second homes and empty properties (totalling £1.9m)
 - Reducing capital allowances
 - Removing second adult rebate
 - Restricting discounts above (e.g.) Band D or E
 - Consulting on a range of maximum discounts to Council Tax Support (based on a cap at between 90% and 75% of current CTB entitlement)

In designing a scheme, we will undertake analysis of the wider impacts of

9.2. Council Tax Support localisation

- 9.2.1. Council Tax Benefit (CTB) is a national means-tested social security benefit to help people pay their Council Tax. CTB is designed by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) and administered by local authorities. It is paid (with a few exceptions, mainly related to the ineligibility of some persons from abroad) to anyone whose income is low enough and is liable to pay Council Tax. CTB is available to those who are pensioners, or of working age, people who are working, the self employed, and people who receive benefits and pensions.
- 9.2.2. Entitlement is calculated in such a way that, depending on family size and the number of other people in the household, the amount they must pay towards their Council Tax increases in line with their income up to a limit beyond which no benefit is payable. **Appendix 1** gives a brief explanation of the principles behind current calculations. This information will assist in understanding how individual options for the new scheme might work. CTB is administered by local authorities who currently receive grants from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) which cover 100% of the cost.
- 9.2.3. In its 2010 Spending Review, the Government announced proposals to reduce spending on CTB by 10% and to localise it, saving a total of £490 million a year from 2013 – 2014. The intention is that local authorities will have local schemes developed, consulted on and implemented by April 2013. Funding will be provided through an unringfenced grant of 90% of CTB expenditure. If any authority does not adopt its own scheme, the government will impose a default scheme along the lines of the current Council Tax Benefit scheme. The Government intends that support for pensioners will not be affected by this cut in spending and that there should be support for other vulnerable groups. In addition, local schemes should support work incentives, and in particular avoid disincentives to move into work.
- 9.2.4. For the London Borough of Barnet (LBB) this means that we will develop options for a new scheme, conduct a full and comprehensive consultation with residents, claimants and stakeholders, and implement a local scheme on 1 April 2013.

9.3. Welfare reform

- 9.3.1. The Government's changes to Council Tax Benefit are taking place within the context of a broad programme of welfare reform, with the aim of making the benefits and tax credit system simpler and to remove disincentives to work. This programme is coupled with a challenging economic climate and reductions in public sector spending. Specific reforms will require London Borough of Barnet to make decisions on how to design and discharge new local support schemes, notably the new form of Council Tax Support and a local Social Fund (from April 2013).

9.3.2. The Welfare Reform Act 2012 makes a number of significant changes to the benefits system, as it:

- Introduces Universal Credit
- Caps the total amount of benefit that can be claimed
- Restricts Housing Benefit entitlement for social housing tenants whose accommodation is larger than they need
- Up-rates Local Housing Allowance rates by the Consumer Price Index
- Seeks to reduce abuse of the Social Fund system by giving power to local authorities
- Limits the payment of Employment and Support Allowance to a 12-month period
- Amends the forthcoming statutory child maintenance scheme
- Introduces Personal Independence Payments, replacing Disability Living Allowance.

Many of these changes will affect those on the lowest incomes. The Council will consider ways in which the authority can make the most of localising Council Tax Support to promote enterprise and employment, develop community resilience, and consider the impact on those groups who are hardest hit.

9.3.3. Local authorities will be given responsibility for designing and implementing a Social Fund, replacing Crisis Loans and Community Care Grants currently administered by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP). This will take effect in April 2013. This provides an opportunity to align this funding with a new Council Tax Support scheme and other forms of support, and consider options to enhance community-level resilience, encourage greater independence and support amongst residents.

9.4. Financial implications of Council Tax localisation

9.4.1. Currently, there are around 30,000 benefit claimants who receive help paying their Council Tax. Total spending on Council Tax Benefit in 2011/12 was £32.2m.

9.4.2. The changes from April 2013 come with a cut of at least 10% in government funding, so from April 2013 Barnet Council will have a gap of £3.2m. Of this amount, £0.7m is attributable the Greater London Authority, leaving a gap of £2.5m for Barnet.

9.4.3. As the Council Tax increase is assumed to be 2.5% next year, £0.7m of this increase will not be collectable as a result of these changes, increasing the Barnet gap to £3.2m.

9.4.4. There is additional uncertainty over this budget in the future, as it will not be “fixed”, it will vary depending on take up, economic conditions, and so on. Over the last five years claimant numbers and the cost of claims have grown as shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Number of CTB claims and cost of claims

| Year end | CTB claimants | % increase |
|----------|---------------|------------|
| 2008 | 25,581 | |
| 2009 | 26,773 | 4.7% |
| 2010 | 28,466 | 6.3% |
| 2011 | 29,010 | 1.9% |
| 2012 | 30,099 | 3.8% |

9.4.5 On top of historic increases in take up, the move from a benefit to a discount may see more people take advantage of this new entitlement. Assuming a 5% increase in take up, this significantly increases the Barnet gap, by a total of £1.2m. This leaves a revised gap of £4.4m. The calculation of this overall gap is shown in the table below:

Table 2: Funding gap for Barnet in 2013/14

| | £M |
|--|------------|
| 10% cut based on £32.2m 2011/12 spend | 3.2 |
| Less: GLA element | (0.7) |
| Add: effect of 2.5% Council Tax increase | 0.7 |
| Add: 5% increase in take up | 1.2 |
| Total | 4.4 |

9.4.6 The funding for Council Tax support is fixed therefore a number of factors could vary this position year on year:

- This gap will increase to the extent that Council Tax is increased in future years.
- A pick up in the economy and a reduction in caseloads will see a reduction in the gap.
- The greater the cut that is passed on, the greater amount that is likely to be written off as bad debt. There is an additional risk of a “culture of non-payment”, whereby people who currently pay Council Tax (our overall collection rate is 98.5%) may stop paying Council Tax as a result of the introduction of this scheme and the associated collection problems that may be created.
- The proportion of claimants who are of working age has been declining over recent years and this trend is likely to continue with an ageing population. Since pensioners are exempt from any new CTS scheme, the impact of any measures to collect a portion of Council Tax will fall disproportionately on those of working age.
- The fact that Council Tax Benefit is being replaced by a range of discounts and exemptions may also have an impact on take-up, since these discounts may not have the stigma associated with benefits in the eyes of some claimants.

9.5. Assumptions

The assumptions applied are below broadly in line with those adopted by other London Boroughs and include:

- An annual increase in Council Tax of 2.5%
- Following an assumed increase in the number of claimants of 5% in 2013/14, no further increases in claimant numbers or growth in the cost of claims
- The percentage of claimants of working age – this is significant as pensioners are exempt from any scheme that Councils can put in place to recover the 10% shortfall in Government funding.

9.6. Designing a Council Tax Support scheme

9.6.1 Principles of a new scheme

In addition, the design of the local scheme should reinforce the aims and objectives of Welfare Reform, incentivising work and aligning with local priorities. It is recommended that the draft scheme for consultation is based upon a clear set of principles, offering incentives and protections to help deliver local priorities. The proposed principles are:

- A system based on fairness, with those with the ability to pay making a fair contribution
- The scheme should incentivise work
- Support for those in the most difficult circumstances (e.g. considering how we can maintain support for those in intensive programmes such as those in the Troubled Families programme)
- The most vulnerable should benefit from a level of protection
- The scheme should be transparent and accessible.

9.6.2. Options for a new scheme

Councils have flexibility to develop a local scheme to address the funding shortfall. Options that many boroughs are considering are as follows:

- Removal of certain exemptions and discounts.
- Reduction of the capital limit. Currently, those with savings of over £16,000 are not eligible for CTB, and this could be reduced further.
- Limit support to a specific Council Tax band. An amendment could be made that limited support to those in properties over (e.g.) Band D.
- Change the basis of the amount of support provided to claimants by one of two methods:

1. **Apply a Council Tax discount based upon a set percentage of the current Council Tax Benefit award.** This has the effect of reducing the claimant's current benefit by a set percentage. Under this method, the amount of benefit each claimant receives would be capped at a set percentage (e.g. between 75% and 90%) of their current entitlement), and equates to a reduction between 10% and 25% of their current benefit entitlement, rather than requiring a fixed-rate contribution to the Council Tax bill. This option allows claimants at higher levels of income to keep more of their additional income and therefore provides more of an incentive to work.
2. **Apply a Council Tax discount based upon a percentage of the Council Tax bill.** Under this method, claimants would receive a maximum discount against their Council Tax bill (e.g. a discount of a maximum of 75% and 90% of the bill). The claimant would be required to pay a set contribution toward their Council Tax bill (i.e. between 10% and 25% of their bill), rather than a reduction in their current benefit.

9.6.3 Other local authorities are investigating options for a localised scheme. Brent and Harrow are both considering scheme options that are broadly similar to those proposed for consultation in this report. For example, Brent are proposing to raise additional revenue to fill some of the funding gap by making reductions in Council Tax reliefs for empty properties and to reduce benefit costs by requiring working age claimants to pay a minimum element of their Council Tax bill (percentages between 15% and 30% being considered). Protections for certain groups and work incentives have also been built in. Other local authorities recognise the risk of non-collection, and projections vary between 25% and 50% of the additional amounts billed.

9.7. Summary of options

- 9.7.1 A number of options are available to develop a new Council Tax Support scheme to align with the principles above, and to meet the funding gap. When modelling potential options for a new Council Tax Support scheme, a projected collection rate should also be applied to the model to aid the accuracy of the estimated income that can be generated from each model. The high-level models provide a summary of the financial implications of different options for Council Tax Support, and an indication of the effect of fully protecting specific groups (i.e., maintaining their benefit at the current level). The models are based upon variations of the current CTB scheme.
- 9.7.2 We have commissioned a specialist research and analysis organisation (Coactiva) to enhance our existing modelling, drawing together different data sets to provide richer intelligence on different models and the impacts of different models. Full modelling and impact assessment of the scheme – and viable variations – will be completed in advance of Cabinet decisions on the proposed scheme in autumn 2012.
- 9.7.3 There are two potential sources to meet the shortfall, and taken together they can meet the £4.4m shortfall:

1. **Removing exemptions and discounts** (maximum contribution of £1.9m)
2. **By amending the current Council Tax Benefit scheme** (requiring a contribution of £2.5m to meet the shortfall).

9.8.1. Removing exemptions and discounts

The first option is to include the use of additional powers in relation to Council Tax exemptions and discounts (Class A and Class C exemptions, and second home discounts). This policy option would support the principle of ‘A system based on fairness, with those with the ability to pay making a fair contribution’. Exemptions are currently awarded to properties that are unoccupied and unfurnished for a maximum of six months (Class C) and to properties unoccupied and unfurnished undergoing or requiring major structural repair to render them habitable, or that are undergoing structural alterations (Class A). For second homes, Barnet currently allows the minimum reduction of 10%. Further details of these current discounts and exemptions are provided in **Appendix 3**.

Removing these discounts and exemptions could generate up to £1.9m per annum, as shown in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Estimated yield from removal of discounts and exemptions

| | Total income generation per annum | Barnet share of income per annum |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Class C exemption | £1.54m | £1.21m |
| Class A exemption | £0.56m | £0.44m |
| Second home discount | £0.32m | £0.25m |
| Total | £2.42m | £1.90m |

It is recommended that the option to remove discounts and exemptions is included within the consultation programme. If these discounts and exemptions are removed, the funding gap is reduced to £2.5m, to be met through a new Council Tax Support scheme.

9.8.2. A new Council Tax Support scheme: Council Tax discount capped as a set percentage of current CTB award.

The options modelled below set out the financial implications of applying a Council Tax discount based upon a set percentage of the current CTB award (i.e. to cap the discount at between 75% - 90% of current Council Tax Benefit).

This option seeks all claimants (excluding protected pensioners) to make a contribution towards their Council Tax bill, based on a percentage reduction on the current amount of benefit they receive.

9.8.3. Changes to current method of benefit calculation

Several options are available to align with the principle of ‘a *system based on fairness*’:

A) Removing the second adult rebate

Second adult rebate does not take the income and savings of the taxpayer into account. It is designed to compensate the tax payer who loses the 25% single person discount because there are other adults in the household who have a low income.

B) Reducing capital limits

The Council Tax Benefit scheme has a capital limit of £16,000. Any capital between £6,000 and £16,000 is presumed to generate tariff income of £1.00 per week for each £250 capital above the lower limit of £6,000 income. Capital is made up of savings, shares and property (except the one lived in). A suggestion is to reduce the capital limit to £8,000 as this aligns with the expected capital limit in Universal Credit.

The tables below (Tables 4a and 4b) do not include the option to limit Council Tax to (e.g.) Band D or E. It is recommended that this forms part of the consultation with residents and key stakeholders.

9.8.4. Summary of options to design Council Tax Support

Tables 4a and 4b below summarise the extent to which potential options for Council Tax Support meet the funding shortfall. The Council will use an external modelling tool provided by Coactiva to further assess the impacts and implications of different options, to test and challenge initial assumptions, and refine the models of different options. The recommended method to amend how we provide support is to offer a Council Tax discount based upon a set percentage of the current Council Tax Benefit award. This gives stronger incentives for those on slightly higher income as it protects more of their income. The modelling is based on a range of collection rates which are lower as the discount reduces. Two models are proposed, in addition to the removal of exemptions and discounts. These models would be the basis of consultation with residents and key stakeholders, seeking responses to each of the levels of discount (between 90% and 75% of current CTB entitlement), other potential components of the scheme, and any options for protecting specific groups.

Combinations of options are highlighted as follows:

- **Red:** Income raised through this option does not meet the £4.4m funding shortfall
- **Amber:** Income raised through this option comes close to meeting a £4.4m funding shortfall
- **Green:** Income raised through this option does meet the funding shortfall

Table 4a and b: Income from Council Tax Benefit changes¹

| Scheme: Council Tax discount to be a set percentage of current entitlement (CTB) | Projected income | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Option A: Set discount at 90% of CTB | Option B: Set discount at 85% of CTB | Option C: Set discount at 80% of CTB | Option D; Set discount at 75% of CTB |
| Model 1: | | | | |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Total funding shortfall | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 |
| Income generated by applying Council Tax discount as a set percentage of the current Council Tax Benefit award | (2.2) | (3.0) | (4.2) | (5.4) |
| Additional income from removing exemptions and discounts | (1.9) | (1.9) | (1.9) | (1.9) |
| (Surplus)/deficit range: | 0.3 | (0.5) | (1.7) | (2.9) |
| Assumed collection rate of income generated from discount | 70% | 60% | 50% | 40% |
| Non-collected Council Tax discount | 0.7 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.6 |
| | 1.0 | 0.4 | (0.4) | (1.3) |

| Scheme: Council Tax discount to be a set percentage of current entitlement (CTB) | Projected income | | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Option A: Set discount at 90% of CTB | Option B: Set discount at 85% of CTB | Option C: Set discount at 80% of CTB | Option D; Set discount at 75% of CTB |
| Model 2: | | | | |
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| Total funding shortfall | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 | 4.4 |
| Income generated by applying Model 1 (above) &: - Removing second Adult Rebate - Simplifying Non-Dependant Charges - Limiting capital at £8,000 | (2.4) | (3.4) | (4.4) | (5.4) |
| Additional income from removing exemptions and discounts | (1.9) | (1.9) | (1.9) | (1.9) |
| (Surplus)/deficit range: | 0.1 | (0.9) | (1.9) | (2.9) |
| Assumed collection rate of income generated from discount | 70% | 60% | 50% | 40% |
| Non collected Council Tax discount | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 1.6 |
| | 0.8 | 0.1 | (0.6) | (1.3) |

¹ Assuming Council Tax increase of 2.5% and caseload increase of 5%

9.9. Offering protection to specific groups

- 9.9.1. The Government's proposals protect pensioners and single occupants from any financial impact arising from any new scheme. Analysis from the Institute for Fiscal Studies and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation shows that schemes to reduce current entitlement will impact on lower income households, as 85 per cent of CTB goes to the lower-income half of households, and almost half of CTB goes just to the lowest-income fifth. Any scheme to recoup the 10% reduction in funding is therefore likely to disproportionately impact lower-income households and can adversely impact collection rates.
- 9.9.2. The impact of restricting Council Tax benefits to between 75% and 90% of current Council Tax benefit would equate to a reduction of between 10% and 25% in current entitlement for claimants. This effect could be partly mitigated for specific priority groups, depending on availability of additional resources to meet this need.
- 9.9.3. Table 5 below provides an illustrative summary of the projected costs of offering full protection (i.e. not capping Council Tax discount at between 75% - 90% of current CTB). These options can be adjusted to provide part protection (e.g. a lower reduction in support). The cost of protection has been estimated from various sources. The current Council Tax Benefit scheme has an extended payment scheme to enable those who were receiving Income Support or Jobseekers Allowance and start work to retain their previous level of benefit for 4 weeks. This has been increased by 2.5% to take account of a possible rise in Council Tax and adjusted depending upon the length of the extended payment and percentage reduction in maximum benefit.
- 9.9.4. Data on troubled families is limited. The first 85 families are all on maximum benefit. There are approximately 700 families in the programme. The cost of protection has been calculated by assuming that the distribution of those household is the same as that of other Council Tax Benefit recipients accrues the Council Tax Bands. The figures have then been adjusted to take account of a prospective increase in Council Tax and a percentage reduction in maximum benefit.

Table 5: Approximate additional cost of protecting defined groups

| £M | | 90% scheme | 85% scheme | 80% scheme | 75% scheme |
|---|----------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Increase run-on period for workers from 4 weeks to: | 1 month | £0 | £0 | £0 | £0 |
| | 2 months | £100k | £100k | £100k | £100k |
| | 3 months | £200k | £200k | £200k | £200k |
| Apprentices | | £0 | £100k | £100k | £100k |
| Troubled families | | £100k | £100k | £200k | £200k |
| Those with disabilities | | £500k | £700k | £900k | £1.1m |
| Carers | | £100k | £200k | £300k | £400k |
| Volunteers | | £200k | £300k | £400k | £500k |
| Total cost of full protection for all groups (assuming 2 month run-on for workers) | | £1m | £1.5m | £2m | £2.4m |

9.9.5. More work will be undertaken to model different options to protect specified groups. We will conduct further analysis to assess the potential for a combined effect of welfare reform on a small number of residents who could be impacted by different strands of the welfare reform programme. This aims to bring additional insight to aid the use of the local Social Fund (to be designed), Discretionary Housing Payments and other schemes, reviewing existing support packages (e.g. for those younger people out of work) and options to support the most vulnerable.

9.10. Proposed consultation options

The report recommends that a comprehensive consultation programme is initiated, coupled with extensive modelling and impact assessment of options. It is proposed that the consultation is based upon a package of options, including:

- Testing the principles which underpin the local scheme
- Removal of current discounts and exemptions (totalling £1.9m)
- Reducing capital allowances
- Removing second adult rebate
- Limiting discount to the level of (e.g.) Band D or Band E
- Consulting on a range of maximum discounts to Council Tax (based on a 10% - 25% reduction in current entitlement)
- Seeking views on potential protection or support mechanisms for specific groups.

9.11. Consultation

To ensure a full communication and consultation programme is in place, a 12 week consultation period is proposed. This is proposed to open on 18 July and run until 10 October. A full communications programme will be developed and implemented, using the local media, council buildings and resources, online resources, and working with partners to cascade information to service users, recipients and residents. In addition to the information and communication campaign, the process will draw on consultation and engagement activities. This aims to seek the views of all residents, current recipients, those likely to be impacted by changes, and those with protected characteristics. This will include:

- Questionnaire (online and paper copy) available to all residents and organisations
- Information events across the borough, to help residents (and current benefit recipients) understand the planned changes
- Focus groups with sample groups of current Council Tax Benefit recipients, representing different demographic groups and those with protected characteristics.

£50,000 is allocated to support this consultation activity, with the findings of consultation informing the final recommendation to Cabinet.

Further details of the proposed consultation approach are in **Appendix 2**.

9.12. Project plan and key milestones

The timetable for implementation is extremely tight. For the scheme to go live in April 2013, several milestones will need to be achieved. These are:

| Milestone | By |
|--|----------------------------|
| Decision by Cabinet on the programme of communication, consultation and engagement proposed in this report | 17 July 2012 |
| Work by Coactiva to identify hardest-hit population groups for various options | August 2012 |
| Consultation | 18 July to 10 October 2012 |
| Analysis and consideration of consultation results Final scheme design agreed in principle | October – November 2012 |
| Cabinet/Cabinet Resources Committee agree new scheme | 17 December 2012 |
| Full Council agree new scheme | 22 January 2013 |
| Legal deadline for a Local Authority to agree a scheme | 31 January 2013 |

Whilst these are the key dates, significant work on writing the rules for the new scheme, software testing, training and development will be undertaken in parallel.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 10.1 Appendix 1 provides a summary of the current Council Tax Benefit scheme.
- 10.2 Appendix 2 provides a summary of the proposed approach to consultation.
- 10.3 Appendix 3 details the legislative changes to Council Tax exemptions and discounts

| | |
|--|--|
| Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials) | |
| Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials) | |

APPENDIX 1: The current Council Tax Benefit scheme

Breakdown of current claims

| | Number | Percentage of total |
|--|---------------|---------------------|
| Pensioners | 9,940 | 34.65% |
| Working age | 20,479 | 65.35% |
| Total | 30,428 | 100.00% |
| Working age breakdown: | | |
| Couple one or both over 18 | 1,131 | 3.53% |
| Single claimant age 25 or over | 8,278 | 20.70% |
| Single claimant 60 - 64 | 107 | 0.33% |
| Single claimant 65 or over | 1 | 0.00% |
| Couple one or both state pension age to 64 | 22 | 0.09% |
| Family one or both over 18 | 9,461 | 18.29% |
| Single claimant 18 - 24 | 435 | 1.00% |
| Single claimant under 18 | 5 | 0.01% |
| Lone parent | 11,464 | 21.34% |
| Lone parent 60 - 64 | 6 | 0.02% |
| | | 65.31% |

Current calculation method

1. If a claimant is passported (i.e. the DWP have approved Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance) then the Council pays CTB at 100%.
2. For non-passported claims, the following process applies:

Step 1: If an applicant has savings in excess of £16,000, then there is no entitlement. For applicants with less than £16,000 savings go to Step 2.

Step 2: The applicant's income is calculated. This includes all sources of income including earnings, benefits (including Child Benefit) and tax credits. The applicant's income is then adjusted by applying certain disregards e.g. Child Benefit is fully disregarded, £17.10 of Working Tax Credit. This gives an adjusted income figure which is used at Step 3.

Step 3: The applicable amount for the applicant is then calculated. This is the amount that the Government thinks the applicant needs to live on and is dependant on the applicant's circumstances – married/single, children, disability, etc. The adjusted income figure is then compared to the applicable amount. If the income is less than the applicable amount, then full CTB is due. If the income is greater than the applicable amount then 20% (known as the taper) of the excess must be used to pay towards Council Tax. Hence, CTB is reduced by 20% of the excess income.

APPENDIX 2

Proposed consultation approach

1. Background

The Government is abolishing the Council Tax Benefit scheme and is asking councils to replace it with their own locally run service called Council Tax Support. Each council must design its own Council Tax Support scheme and eligibility criteria to award support. Next year, Barnet will have ten per cent less money for Council Tax Support than it currently spends on Council Tax Benefit.

Each local authority must carry out a consultation exercise concerning their draft scheme proposals and must define and publish its local Council Tax Support scheme by 31 January 2013. If the scheme is not defined and published by this date, a default scheme will be imposed by the government and the funding reduction will need to be met from other means including for example, from the council reserve, increasing Council Tax levels or reducing other service expenditure.

The council will undertake consultation on proposals for a Council Tax Support scheme between the period 18 July and 10 October 2012. This timescale has been determined following receipt of policy statements of intent published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) on 17 May 2012 and to permit sufficient time to evaluate responses received and to align with the council's budget setting timetable.

Barnet proposes to retain much of the existing national Council Tax Benefit scheme within its local Council Tax Support scheme. However, changes are proposed to some of the key principles, and these proposed changes will form the basis of our consultation.

2. Consultation objectives

The consultation approach aims to ensure all residents in the borough (including organisations and voluntary groups) have an opportunity to have their say about the potential replacement for Council Tax Benefit.

The objectives of this consultation and engagement programme are to:

- Communicate the need to design a local Council Tax Support scheme to replace Council Tax Benefit, with a 10% reduction in funding
- To understand the views, priorities and impact on existing Council Tax Benefit recipients; and the views and priorities of residents, organisations and voluntary groups
- To assess responses to the principles underpinning a future scheme, views on the proposed model, consideration of potential incentives and protection
- To use the consultation data to shape a final recommendation to Cabinet and full Council, completing relevant impact assessments and designing an effective, efficient and sustainable scheme.

The project will use a range of, consultation and engagement tools, and expertise to generate a evidence base to inform the development of a recommended option for Cabinet and full Council to consider later in 2012.

3. Proposed approach

3.1. Communication

This element of the consultation approach focuses on initiating a major communication programme with residents, Council Tax benefit recipients, different stakeholder groups, local media, voluntary organisations, and practitioners). This will highlight the changes proposed by government, the implications for Barnet and residents, principles underpinning any new scheme, and asking residents to engage in consultation activities.

3.2. Communication methods

The communications programme will include:

- Press releases placed with the local media, and advertisements
- Information provided through 'Barnet First' magazine to all residents
- Dedicated part of the council website, including a summary of the context, proposals, FAQs, relevant information and access to an online questionnaire
- Information flyers placed in council and partner buildings, and hard copy questionnaires made available through face to face council sites
- Communication to all third sector organisations in the borough
- Targeted communications to organisations (e.g. Barnet Homes, Job Centre Plus, colleges, schools), seeking to cascade information to service users and recipients
- Targeted communications to other council directorates (e.g. Children's Services and ASCH) to cascade information to our other council service users
- Internal communication to our employees

3.3. Engagement and consultation

The process will use consultation and engagement. This aims to seek the views of all residents, current recipients, and those likely to be impacted by changes. This will include:

- Questionnaire (online and paper copy) available to all residents and organisations
- Information road show events across the borough, to help residents (and current benefit recipients) understand the planned changes
- Focus groups with sample groups of current Council Tax Benefit recipients, representing different demographic groups and those with protected characteristics

4. Timescales

The creation of a Council Tax Support scheme is likely to attract significant attention, given the potential implications for residents and current Council Tax Benefit recipients. A 12 week consultation period will be used to ensure that respondents have opportunity to access relevant information and make an informed response. This information will then be used to shape a recommendation to Cabinet and full Council.

5. Cost and management

This project will require adequate resources to ensure success, to manage the various communication activities, develop and implement the consultation activities, complete analysis of the results, and use a project management to execute the project effectively. It is recommended that parts of the consultation programme (e.g. focus groups) are commissioned from external providers. A budget of £50,000 has been allocated to deliver an effective consultation programme.

APPENDIX 3

Council Tax exemptions and discounts – potential options

The figures used in this appendix should be regarded as indicative only.

Reduce exemption C to nil

Exemption Class C is awarded to properties that are unoccupied and unfurnished for a maximum of six months. In 2010/11, Barnet Council awarded £2.2m worth of Class C exemptions.

Although Exemption Class C can be granted for up to six months, a large proportion of awards are given to landlords for short periods between tenancies. There is a risk that we create a large number of small debts that are difficult and expensive to collect. For this reason, the initial modelling assumptions are for a relatively low collection rate of 70% for this type of debt.

This would yield £1.54m in additional Council Tax income, assuming the same level of exemptions in the future.

Reduce exemption A to nil

Exemption Class A is awarded to unoccupied and unfurnished properties undergoing or requiring major structural repair to render them habitable, or that are undergoing structural alterations. In 2010/11, Barnet Council awarded £0.8m worth of Exemption Class A.

Assuming a 70% collection rate, this change could yield an additional £0.56m.

Reduce Second Home discount to nil

Currently Councils have the option to allow between 10 and 50% as a reduction for second homes. Barnet currently allows the minimum reduction of 10%. Under the localisation of Council Tax Support, the Council has the option to reduce this to 0% which could yield a further £0.4m in Council Tax.

Assuming an 80% collection rate the yield would be £0.32m.

These figures are summarised in the table below, which also shows the expected share of the yield to Barnet (78.4% of the total):

| | Yield £million per annum | Barnet share £million per annum |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Class C exemption | 1.54 | 1.21 |
| Class A exemption | 0.56 | 0.44 |
| Second home discount | 0.32 | 0.25 |
| Total | 2.42 | 1.90 |

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